

**FBIS**

# DAILY REPORT

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FINANCE MINISTER DELIVERS BUDGET SPEECH TO DIET

OW082235 Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese 0507 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Speech by Finance Minister Noboru Takeshita to the 101st extraordinary Diet session -- live from the chamber of the House of Representatives]

[Text] In requesting the Diet's deliberation on the fiscal 1984 budget, I would like to state my basic views on the future fiscal and finance policies and explain the outline of the budget.

I think that our nation is now at a juncture to undertake the building of a comfortable, animated, stable society, transcending material affluence, which it has pursued to date. In retrospect, the world economy continued to grope for a future course to take, having undergone two oil crises and faced various difficulties -- the slackening in the economic growth rate, increased unemployment, aggravation of inflation, increased fiscal deficits, international monetary unrest, aggravated trade friction, and the like.

During the period, thanks to the nation's outstanding wisdom and untiring efforts, Japan was able to allay inflation at an early date and effect a smooth transition from high to stable growth, liquidating deficits in the balance of international payments, thus cementing its position as an economic power.

Last March, it seemed that bright prospects had opened for the world economy with the lowering of crude oil prices, which had been on the rise till then. Against the backdrop of price stability and other favorable conditions, in addition to the decline in crude oil prices, the United States is showing a better business recovery than expected, while all other advanced nations are gaining deeper confidence in overcoming inflation and recovering their growth rates.

Our nation's economy has shown a remarkable improvement, mainly in the production shipments, business profits and other trends, with the result that business is taking a slow, but steady, course of recovery. After the almost 10 years since the second oil crisis, the Japanese economy seems, at last, to have reached a landmark. In the course of tiding over the two trials during these 10 years, Japan has effected big behavioral changes in both economic activity and social consciousness. Thus, colorful moves, called softening or maturation, are in progress daily. These moves of new vitality bring out the spirit of self-sustenance and self-help through respect for variety and the display of individuality. They also reflect the aspiration for mental comfort and spiritual affluence, along with material abundance.

The course of stable growth, which our nation should take in the days ahead, should not be a return to quantitative expansion as in the past, but a new road, which would give people spiritual gains and a life worth living, in addition to material richness, and which would bring out an enterprising vitality. To this end, I think that we should pool the nation's wisdom and energy, and build a stable society of comfort and vitality with an eye on the 21st century.

To build such a society, I would like to manage the future fiscal and finance policies, bearing the following three tasks in mind in order to cope with big social and economic changes: to maintain sustained growth without inflation; to further promote fiscal reform; and to build harmonious, external economic relations.

At the Williamsburg summit last May, it was confirmed that the advanced nations would cooperate in the trading and international monetary areas, in addition to striving to reduce fiscal deficits and to continue lowering interest rates in order to attain sustained growth without inflation.



The first task is to secure sustained growth without inflation. Needless to say, price stability is a prerequisite for economic stability and stability in national life. It is no exaggeration to say that prices are now showing the most stability since the war. I hope to keep this stable keynote in the future, making it the foundation for sustained growth.

Although business appears increasingly bright, the government worked out a package of comprehensive economic measures last October, and gave as much consideration as possible in the 1984 budget by securing funds for projects through the utilization of private capital and the introduction of taxation measures for the promotion of investments.

The government also plans to effect a drastic reduction of income and residential taxes. This will review the income tax system to cope with the socio-economic changes, and I think that it will exercise a favorable influence on the economy.

In monetary policy, the official discount rate was reduced in last October for the first time in 22 months. Subsequently, there was an across-the-board cut in interest rates, including those on deposits and savings. As for future measures in this area, we plan to be flexible and effective in responding to changes in prices, business trends, interest rates at home and abroad, and in the exchange rate.

Second, we will further advance fiscal reforms. As a result of the economic slump and sluggish tax revenue increase in the wake of the oil crises, the government issued vast amounts of bonds to bolster the economy and to improve and stabilize the people's livelihood. This left a big scar in the nation's finances, however. The outstanding national bonds surpassed 100 trillion yen last year, and are expected to reach 1,200 trillion yen by the end of fiscal 1984. The bond-servicing expenditure, including interest, accounts for more than 18 percent of the government budget for fiscal 1984. This expenditure is greater than that earmarked for public works and even threatens to overtake the outlay on social security programs.

Meanwhile, the tax revenue accounts for only 60 percent of the total budgetary income, which is a remarkably low figure compared with that of other industrialized countries.

This trend has continued for as much as 10 years, beginning in fiscal year 1975. Consequently, the nation's finances are unable to fully consummate various functions expected of them. Should this situation be left uncorrected, we would inevitably find ourselves unable to cope with future economic and social needs, including those of an aging society and Japan's increasing international obligations.

We must therefore recover the nation's fiscal ability to meet the demand of the new era through our promotion of reform programs. This is a pressing policy task, which we must accomplish at all costs, laying foundations to ensure the future development of the economy and the stability of the people's livelihood. At the same time, it will lead to the erection of socio-economic structures enabling the private sector to fully display its creative initiatives and energy in the spirit of self-reliance and self-help.

With this in mind, in its recently published document "Outlook on, and Guidelines for, Socio-Economic Development in the 1980's," the government set out the goals of ending constitutional tendencies to rely on deficit-covering bonds, and of reducing its dependence on bonds during the period covered by the document. We plan to continue maximum effort to advance reforms toward the attainment of these goals.

To that end, we will, in the area of expenditure, press for further reforms of the existing systems and programs, with a view to redefining the roles and responsibilities to be shared by the government and the private sector, the state and prefectural governments. We will thus make more positive efforts to reduce the expenditure.

In the area of revenue, too, we find it necessary to make a structural review of the sources of revenue in the light of changes in socio-economic structures, and of the present administrative services from a new point of view concerning the shares to be paid by the beneficiaries.

Along with the maximum efforts we are required to make to advance structural reforms both in expenditure and revenue, we are also required to address the issue of finding sources of revenue to repay the outstanding deficit-covering bonds, which amount to a vast figure. In considering this issue, we need to view it from a perspective of how we should advance fiscal reforms, while promoting steady development of the economy and the stability of the people's livelihood. In view of the fiscal difficulties facing the nation, however, I must say, with regret, that the present policy of not issuing renewed bonds as a means of payment for the deficit-covering bonds has to be reviewed. We need to study these problems from a broad-range, medium-term point of view in the course of advancing fiscal reforms.

To facilitate the required study, I would like to clarify here my basic view on establishing a medium-term outlook on state finances, based on the budget for fiscal 1984, and on advancing fiscal reforms:

We anticipate future socio-economic developments will remain extremely fluid. The path ahead for reform programs is by no means a smooth one. Reform efforts in the past were strenuous and painstaking indeed; it is my acute feeling now, however, that the public has never shown such strong interest in administrative and fiscal reforms as it does today. I am determined to do everything in my power to advance fiscal reform, even more steadily, with the understanding and cooperation of my fellow citizens.

Third, we will endeavor to establish well-balanced economic relations with foreign nations.

Japan's internationalization in socio-economic areas in recent years has been remarkable indeed, with its economy now accounting for approximately 10 percent of the world economy in scale. It has become impossible to conceive the prosperity and development of our economy without harmonious relations with the world economy; at the same time, without Japan fulfilling its obligations commensurate with the national strength, it would be impossible to expect the world economy to prosper and develop.

Under these circumstances, the nation's international balance of payments for fiscal 1983, covering both trade and other economic areas, continued to show a large surplus, primarily as a result of declines in oil prices, the appreciation of the U.S. dollar in the money market and the recovery of the world economy, particularly that of the U.S. This prompted many countries to ask Japan to take steps to correct the imbalance.

Trade and current-account surpluses that Japan accumulated largely stem from factors that cannot always be controlled by our country's efforts alone. Nevertheless, it has become a pressing task for Japan, which plays a major role in the world economy, that it endeavor, positively and voluntarily, to preserve and strengthen free trade, and to form well-balanced relations with other nations.

Based on this situation, the government formulated a comprehensive economic package in October last year, setting out broad and multilateral measures, including an accelerated in-flow of capital, internationalization of the yen, liberalization of the money market, and the promotion of international cooperation in this area, as well as for the liberalization of Japanese markets and the acceleration of imports.

As for the market-opening measures, we, in addition to the series of measures already taken, decided -- in the tariff revisions for fiscal 1984 -- to move up the date for tariff reduction, as agreed on manufactured and mineral goods at the Tokyo round of multinational negotiations on trade and tariffs, and to expand the overall framework of preferential tariff-ceiling items. At the same time, we decided to abolish, or reduce, tariffs on semiconductors and regenerated lumber in response to the strong interests shown by many countries.

Next, concerning the issues of yen internationalization and money-market liberalization, we incorporated a series of specific measures into the published package, and we further plan to independently, and positively, tackle them on the basis of the long history and traditions of the nation's monetary systems and the climate in this country. We will thus continue to endeavor to create such money and capital markets as can flexibly respond to future economic developments at home and abroad.

Regarding the trends in the exchange rate, the German mark and other European currencies fell to a record low as a result of an anticipated rise in the U.S. interest rates and speculations about international situations since last November. However, the yen rate has maintained a relatively steady level since last October. As for the future yen rate, we hope that it will fully reflect the favorable fundamentals of the Japanese economy, as well as the progress we make in the implementation of measures to accelerate the in-flow of capital and other related measures listed in the above-mentioned economic package.

In the future, too, we will continue to make efforts for a stable yen rate in close cooperation with nations concerned.

Regarding the accumulated debt issue, we have been cautious in our response, so as not to cause confusion in international finances. Solution to the issue requires economic adjustments by the debtor nations, through maximum efforts on their own, and effective responses by the credit nations' governments and banks, and by the IMF, as well as a sustained recovery of the world economy and the correction of the world's high interest rates. From this position, Japan will continue to make the necessary responses.

Furthermore, in the negotiations to increase investments in the World Bank of industrialized nations, it was agreed that Japan would be the second largest investor to the United States. This is the result of the nation's positive cooperation with member nations of the World Bank to date; at the same time, it means, I believe, that our country now bears heavier responsibilities in international communities than before. Based on this perception, we will work for further international cooperation.

In this connection, with a view to shaping harmonious relations with other countries, we will present legislation for your deliberations to revise laws relating to items listed in the above-mentioned economic package, in another package deal wherever such a deal is deemed advisable.

Next, I would like to describe the outline of the budget for fiscal 1984.



The 1984 budget was formulated to thoroughly review expenditure and take a second look at revenue as well, while exerting the utmost efforts to reduce public bonds, to promote fiscal reform. Expenditure was strictly held in check by effecting thorough cutbacks and rationalization, even by delving into the foundation of the system. In estimating budget demand, a more stringent ceiling was adopted than in last year, so that each ministry or agency had to make a drastic review of its own budget. In formulations the budget the government also conducted reviews, without establishing sanctuaries, and carried out various institutional revisions, including reforms in local financial measures and in the medical insurance and pension systems, thus thoroughly reducing expenditure. The government also reduced, and rationalized, food management expenses and further rationalized the management of the Japan National Railways.

Regarding subsidies, the government rescrutinized all of them, streamlined and rationalized them more positively than ever before, and strictly compressed their aggregate to a decrease of 430.5 billion yen from the preceding year, in order to cope with inevitable increment elements.

Regarding the authorized strength of national public officials, the government steadily implemented authorized strength reduction plans, and strictly checked its increase. As a result, the government is to drastically cut back employees of administrative agencies by as many as 3,953.

As a result of these efforts, general expenditure is listed at 32,585.7 billion yen, or a decrease of 33.8 billion from that of the preceding year. The general account budget, which includes national bonds and the distribution of local allocation taxes, is listed at 50,627.2 billion yen, or a 0.5 percent increase over the original budget of the preceding year.

Next, I will explain revenues. First, regarding tax revenue, which comprises the bulk of revenue, the government, in revising the taxation system in 1984, plans to take a new look at the income tax system as a whole, commensurate with changes in the social and economic situation, thereby effecting a drastic reduction in income and residential taxes, amounting to 1,180 billion yen in the first year.

Specifically, the government plans to raise the minimum level of taxation and amend the tax rate structure while paying attention to reducing of the burden on the middle income brackets with dependents, and the wage earners. The government also plans to work out necessary measures to put energy to effective use, and promote capital investment of small and medium businesses.

At the same time, the government plans to take measures, including the hiking of tax rates on corporate, liquor and commodity taxes, so as not to further aggravate the presently severe fiscal situation. I hope the people will completely understand that this is a necessary measure -- necessary even if the government does its best to cut back expenditure and secure nontax revenue.

In addition, keeping in mind the strong request for the guarantee of fairness in the application and implementation of the income tax system, the government plans to work out necessary measures to further consolidate the income tax reporting system and to maintain the tax payment environment, in order to ensure fairness in taxation. The government intends to continue striving to carry out tax administration on a more proper and fair basis, by obtaining the people's trust and cooperation.

In the area of nontax revenues, in view of the very severe fiscal situation I mentioned earlier, the government intends to take bold steps to increase revenues by working out measures for payment into the general account from the special account and special corporations.

Thanks to efforts in both the revenue and expenditures areas, the amount of public bonds to be issued is set at 12,680 billion yen, a decrease of 665 billion yen from the original budget for the preceding year. It breaks down to 6,225 billion yen in construction bonds and 6,455 billion yen in deficit-covering public bonds; and, consequently, the degree of dependence on public bonds will stand at 25 percent.

Paying attention to its smooth absorption, the government plans to have 6,800 billion yen absorbed by national bond underwriters, 2,280 billion yen through periodic bidding for public subscription of national bonds, and 3,600 billion yen subscribed for by the Trust Fund Bureau's funds.

Regarding the issuance of deficit-covering public bonds, the government plans to submit to the Diet for its deliberation a bill concerning special measures for ensuring revenue sources necessary for fiscal operations in fiscal year 1984.

In view of the severe present situation, the government plans to check the amount of fiscal investment and loan plans by strictly reviewing the substance of projects and debtors; it also plans to strive to ensure preponderant and effective distribution of funds in order to meet policy needs. At the same time it plans to put private capital to good use and ensure the smooth execution of projects. As a result, the 1984 fiscal investment and loan plans are at ¥21,106.6 billion, or 1.9 percent more than the original plan for the preceding year.

I will now explain major expenses. Under the unusually severe fiscal situation, the government strove to rationalize and effectively use expenses in the 1984 budget by taking various measures, including institutional reforms as I mentioned earlier. However, the government paid close attention to policies for the truly underprivileged and directed particular consideration to the areas that need further replenishment from medium- and long-range viewpoints.

Regarding social security expenses and costs for the promotion of education and sciences, the government effected institutional reforms in earnest in the areas of medical insurance, pension, child support allowances, employment insurance, and educational scholarship work in order to maintain the stability of various policies and thereby social and economic changes. At the same time, it strove to bolster welfare facilities for the aged and mentally and physically handicapped, promote insurance work, ensure employment opportunities for people of advanced age, and help replenish various types of scientific research.

The government intends to actively promote economic cooperation funds, taking into account the international situation and other factors, and to pay attention to the qualitative replenishment of defense-related expenses while keeping them in harmony with those for other policies.

Regarding expenses for energy measures, the government plans to steadily carry out various policies in a planned way in accordance with the medium-and long-term outlook for supply and demand while ensuring the necessary revenue sources by hiking the tax rate on oil and by taking other measures.

In the area of expenses for small and medium-sized business, the government is working out measures to promote the modernization and structural improvement of small and medium-sized businesses to help them cope with changes in their environment.

In the area of agricultural, forestry, and fisheries expenses, the government is striving to effectively carry out policies primarily by promoting highly productive agriculture while effecting a reorganization of production to meet demand trends.



Regarding public works-related expenses, in view of the severe fiscal situation, its aggregate is set at a lower level than that in the preceding year while paying attention predominantly to the maintenance of social capital, which constitutes the foundation for the repletion of the national life. However, in the sector of funds for general public works, a higher level than that in the preceding year is to be ensured through the utilization of the private capital and by elaborating various plans.

An approximately ¥1.5 trillion deficit is anticipated in local government finances for fiscal 1984. To meet this deficit, we have decided, from a midterm perspective of state and local fiscal management and in accordance with the principle of local government's self-reliance and responsibility, to carry out radically reform local government finances and to take an exceptional interim measure regarding all national tax revenues to be allocated to local governments, in line with our policy for local government finances. Thus we have paid attention to ensure that there are no obstacles to the proper management of local finances.

We urge local governments, for their part, to reduce and rationalize the defraying of expenditures and allocate fiscal resources more effectively.

I would like to take this opportunity to speak about the supplementary and revised budget for fiscal 1983. This revised budget is aimed at accomodating a ¥150 billion tax reduction that was necessitated by the implementation of the law on extraordinary measures related to income tax in fiscal 1983 and financing unavoidable additions to the disaster relief funds and administrative expenses. Under the current severe fiscal situation, we have had a hard time raising the funds that are necessary for these measures. To be more specific, guided mainly by the principle of not increasing deficit-covering bond issues, we have made maximum efforts to raise funds by means of economy on current expenditures, return of reserves to national coffers, increases in nontax revenues, and transfer of carry-over surplus from the preceding fiscal year. These measures have enabled us to meet normal supplementary fund requirements, including that for added administrative expenses.

However, regarding major disasters that occurred in fiscal 1983, we have decided to issue construction bonds amounting to ¥445 billion in order to raise necessary funds for speedy rehabilitation.

As a result, the total budget for fiscal 1983 after revision has increased by ¥459.8 billion over the original budget, in both the revenue and expenditure, to ¥50,839.4 billion. The ratio of bond issues to the total budget is 27.1 percent.

You have just heard an outline of the 1984 budget and the 1983 supplementary budget. I ask you to deliberate on them and approve them quickly.

Our social economy is currently undergoing constant change. I wish to build a stable economy that can cope with these changes in an appropriate way so that future generations can feel happiness in life and live in affluence and with vitality. To this end, we must do with determination whatever needs to be done. The same holds true for fiscal reform; we must implement reforms step by step so that we will not leave heavy burdens for further generations.

We must independently seek the correct way to internationalize our economy and found such an economy on our soil, which we have confidently protected and nurtured. I firmly believe that our current efforts and perseverance in solving the problems confronting Japan will surely serve as the foundation for Japan's further development and prosperity in the coming new era. I earnestly urge our citizens to give us further understanding and cooperation.

NAKASONE ANSWERS QUESTIONS ON POLICY SPEECH

OW081131 Tokyo KYODO in English 1120 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Tokyo, Feb 8 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said Wednesday he will try to keep Japan's defense spending below 1 percent of the country's gross national product despite a proposed 6.55 percent increase in defense outlays for fiscal 1984.

Speaking at a plenary session of the Diet (parliament), Nakasone said a proposed 2.9 trillion yen (12.5 billion dollars) fiscal 1984 defense budget is the "minimum necessary," and that it is "in harmony" with other government expenditures. He rebuffed charges from opposition parties that defense spending, up 6.55 percent compared with a mere 0.5 percent rise in overall 1984 budget, is disproportionately larger than spending for welfare and education. Welfare and education spending will go up 2 percent and 1 percent in the government-proposed 50.1 trillion budget for fiscal 1984 starting on April 1.

The fiscal 1984 defense budget equals 0.99 percent of Japan's GNP and is expected to top the 1 percent ceiling the government of the Liberal-Democratic Party pledged in the past to maintain. When asked during the Diet session if he can hold on to the 1 percent ceiling, Nakasone said, "I will make continued efforts" to keep Japan's defense spending below that level.

But Nakasone said his administration, like previous LDP governments, will try to improve the country's defense capabilities outlined in the 1976 defense buildup program. He made the remarks in answering a question by Japan Socialist Party Chairman Masashi Ishibashi, one of three House of Representatives members who took the rostrum seeking explanations of Nakasone's policy speech Monday.

The ruling LDP suffered a major setback in the December 18 general elections in which the conservative pro-American party lost 36 seats to 250 in the 511-member lower house. The Nakasone administration narrowly maintains a majority after forming a coalition, the first in the LDP's 28-year history, with the New Liberal Club, which has eight lower house dietmen.

The elections were dominated by the issue of "political ethics" which stemmed from the conviction of former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka in a 500 million yen bribery trial. Without Tanaka's backing, Nakasone could not become prime minister.

Speaking at the Diet session, Ishibashi said the ruling party was defeated in the elections because voters were worried about Nakasone's political style. In reply, Nakasone said he solemnly accepted the election results and will reform what should be reformed. He did not elaborate. Most questions raised by three lawmakers during the session were related to domestic issues.

When asked about ways to improve relations between Japan and the Soviet Union, Nakasone said he hopes Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko can visit Tokyo for "frank" talks with Japanese Government leaders.

Touching on the Korean situation, Nakasone said he has a great interest in what is going on there and plans to promote a reduction of tensions in the area.

## Reiterates Defense Ceiling

OW090453 Tokyo KYODO in English 0402 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Tokyo, Feb 9 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone reiterated Thursday the government will honor a commitment to keep defense spending below 1 percent of the GNP -- at least for the time being. "At present we are not reviewing the 1976 Cabinet decision" which set up the self-imposed defense ceiling, Nakasone told an upper house plenary session. Nakasone made the remarks in answer to interpellation from the No 1 opposition Socialist Party, which grilled the government on both domestic and foreign policies. In defending the government's defense budget for fiscal 1984, Nakasone pointed out the government had allocated 9.3 trillion yen for social welfare, more than three times the planned outlays for national defense. On education, Nakasone said "the time has come" for undertaking sweeping reforms and pledged changes in the country's education system would be carried out on the basis of a national consensus. Nakasone also hinted at the possibility of Tokyo making concessions in beef and orange imports, saying both international harmony and a healthy domestic agricultural industry are necessary in tackling the issue.

NLC SUPPORTS RESOLUTION TO OUST TANAKA

OW081151 Tokyo KYODO in English 1126 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Tokyo, Feb 8 KYODO -- Home Affairs Minister Seiichi Tagawa, a coalition partner in the government of Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, said Wednesday his minor conservative party will support a resolution to oust Nakasone's main backer from the Diet (parliament).

Tagawa, head of the New Liberal Club, made the statement at a plenary session of the House of Representatives in reply to a Socialist Party questioner. "If such a resolution should be submitted, all our Diet members will support it," Tagawa said.

The NLC last year joined other opposition parties to submit a resolution seeking the ouster of former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka, found guilty in Japan's largest postwar bribery scandal. Tanaka was sentenced to four years in prison last autumn by the Tokyo District Court for taking huge bribes from U.S. aircraft maker Lockheed while in office in the early 1970s. Tanaka, often referred to as Japan's kingmaker, immediately appealed and resisted opposition pressure to give up his lower house seat.

Nakasone's Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP) suffered a stunning setback in the December 18 general election due partly to Tanaka's conviction. The LDP lost 36 seats in the lower house to 250 but immediately added eight independents to its roster to maintain a slim majority in the 511-member house. In forming his second administration, Nakasone succeeded in forming a coalition with the NLC to secure a working majority in the powerful lower chamber. The NLC, an LDP splinter group formed in 1976, has eight members in the house. Tagawa said Wednesday his party formed the coalition government with the LDP because a political agreement had been reached between the two on "political ethics," administrative and educational reform, and "peace diplomacy."

GOVERNMENT PROPOSES BILL TO INTERNATIONALIZE YEN

OW080955 Tokyo KYODO in English 0742 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Tokyo, Feb 8 KYODO -- The government will submit a bill for internationalizing the yen to the current Diet session to allow greater foreign access to Japan's financial and capital markets, Finance Ministry officials said Wednesday.

The bill is omnibus legislation to revise seven relevant laws such as the foreign exchange control law, the law on the Export-Import Bank of Japan, the securities transactions law and the law on flotation of foreign currency-denominated public bonds. The proposed revision of the foreign exchange control law would allow foreigners to buy real estate and stocks of key Japanese corporations more easily to further promote the inflow of foreign capital to Japan and boost the yen's value.

The EXIM Bank, under the revised law, would provide loans to foreign companies based in Japan to expand their imports of manufactured goods. The present law allows Japanese firms and foreign-capital firms with a minority foreign equity to get such loans from the bank. When the bill is enacted, they said, the Japanese Government can issue the so-called Nakasone bonds, national bonds denominated in foreign currencies, in the U.S. and other countries -- another measure to induce foreign capital to Japan. The Finance Ministry wants to time the presentation of the bill to the Diet with the first Japan-U.S. subcabinet meeting of financial experts on yen-dollar exchange rate problems, to be held in Tokyo February 23-24.

BANK GOVERNOR VOICES CONCERN OVER U.S. DEFICIT

OW081025 Tokyo KYODO in English 1016 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Tokyo, Feb 8 KYODO -- The continuing U.S. budget deficit could cause "very difficult consequences," Bank of Japan Governor Haruo Maekawa warned Wednesday. He expressed the hope the United States would take steps quickly to reduce the bulging deficit, which is widely believed to have kept U.S. interest rates and the dollar's value high and produced trade deficits.

"We fear the U.S. budget deficit will result in very difficult consequences if it continues for years to come," Maekawa told a news conference. "And people around the world certainly are sharing that fear."

The governor also voiced grave concern over the depreciation of European currencies against the dollar. Asked about the Finance Ministry's plan to permit Japanese companies to float yen-quoted bonds abroad from April 1, Maekawa suggested the need to keep adequate controls on such bonds so as to prevent the domestic bond market from shrinking. "There are domestic rules on bond flotation," he said. "Flotation rules are bound to be reviewed in accordance with changes in the market climate, but some form of rules is due to remain."

BRIEFS

PRC TEACHERS INVITED -- Tokyo, Feb. 6 KYODO -- Japan will invite 120 Chinese teachers of the Japanese language for a month's visit starting February 16, the Foreign Ministry said Monday. The Chinese, most of whom are in their 20's, will receive lessons and go on tours to learn about this country, ministry officials said. Chinese students of the Japanese language are estimated to number one to two million, they said. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 1111 GMT 6 Feb 84 OW]



He stressed that the DPRK's new proposal is a "reasonable and wise one."

In his interview with an ASAHI SHIMBUN reporter on February 4 he said as regards the DPRK's proposal for tripartite talks: The Soviet Union is interested in this proposal. If such concrete steps as the signing of a peace agreement, which would replace the Armistice Agreement, the withdrawal of the U.S. troops from South Korea, the adoption of a non-aggression declaration between the North and the South, the removal of the state of military confrontation by a sharp reduction of the military strength between North and South and so on are taken at the tripartite talks on the basis of peaceful agreement, it would mean promoting a durable peace on the Korean peninsula.

On February 3, in his talk with the head of the International Department of the Japan Liberal-Democratic Party, Kovalenko said that no Koreans residing in Sakhalin want to go to South Korea or to Japan.

#### VRPR on Sentiment in South

SK081324 (Clandestine) Voice of the RPR in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] The North's proposal for tripartite talks is widely talked about on the streets now. Let us learn of this through Madam Yun of this station, who has been to various places in Seoul City.

[Madam Yun] Everywhere I went, I found all the citizens enthusiastically welcoming the North's proposal for tripartite talks as an epochal measure. The workers in the Kuro tripartite talks proposal during their lunch or a moment's work break. All of them were saying that it was the most rational, realistic, and just proposal which can be achieved.

A worker of a certain company in the industrial estate said: It is because of the United States that the Korean peninsula remains divided and a tense situation in which a nuclear war may break out prevails here. The United States occupies this land and holds control of everything, as well as prerogative over the South Korean Armed Forces. Therefore, to eliminate tension on the Korean peninsula and to provide conditions for independent reunification, the North, the United States, and the South Korean authorities should first hold talks.

This time, the North proposed the holding of tripartite talks, which also allows the participation of the Seoul authorities in its talks with the United States. The proposal is a realistic one which could really be successful. Despite that, the United States and the political authorities are answering with the "Team Spirit-84" war exercise. Saying this, he added that he cannot suppress indignation at the nuclear war exercise of the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan ring.

Another worker said: It is a proposal to be welcomed. Yet, the political authorities only repeated the demand for bilateral talks -- which has already been denounced by our masses as being unrealistic -- and, on the heels of opposing the proposal for no reason, while saying that the North is engaged in a false peace offensive, they even held the "Team Spirit-84" war exercise, the largest ever in history. Can this, indeed, not be a challenge to our masses who aspire for peace and peaceful reunification?

It has become clearer that their insistence on holding only bilateral talks without the United States, which stations its troops in South Korea and even holds prerogative of the South Korean Armed Forces, was derived from their false offensive.



He said that he cannot suppress indignation at the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan ring, who held the war exercises for northward aggression at a time when our masses and the world peoples hope for the early achievement of the North's tripartite talks for peace and peaceful reunification on the Korean peninsula, and added: All the evidence only shows that, without the United States -- which is the mastermind of the division of the Korean peninsula and the belligerent party to the North -- becoming a party in the talks, the precondition for a reunification dialogue cannot be provided.

If people meet someone or get together now, they are talking about the North's newly proposed tripartite talks.

A Mr Chong, a college professor whom I met at a certain tea room on the banks of the Han River, said: In the past, when the North proposed talks with the United States, the U.S. political authorities insisted on holding tripartite talks. But now that the North has proposed tripartite talks, the United States and the political authorities should come to the table for the talks, should they not? The United States and the South Korean authorities voice their opposition with no reason, without even sitting down for talks, and even held the "Team Spirit-84" war exercise aimed at the North.

Such an exercise cannot be viewed as other than one that seeks the wicked aim of not hoping for peace and peaceful reunification on the Korean peninsula and of trying to offer our nation and land as a sacrifice to a nuclear war. Under our country's solemn situation in which the choices are nuclear war or peace, and reunification or division, the people are keenly watching the United States and the political authorities. The United States and the political authorities should keep clearly in mind that the people will not tolerate any act which runs counter to the demand and aspiration of the times and the nation, he said.

Judging from the movements of the citizens whom I encountered at various places, it could be clearly seen that all of them were earnestly hoping for the reunification of the South and the North, and were indignant at the maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan ring, who answered the North's tripartite talks proposal with the large-scale war exercise for northward aggression.

#### 'TEAM SPIRIT-84' MILITARY EXERCISE DENOUNCED

LSWYK Vice Chairman Cited

SK090119 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0415 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] The report on the joint meeting of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and Central Military Commission is now evoking a great response among all the people. Kim Chang-yong, vice chairman of the LSWYK Central Committee said:

[Begin recording] All our people, who heard the report on the joint meeting of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and Central Military Commission are not suppressing their surging indignation at the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique, and are filled with the burning will to defend with their lives their socialist fatherland and its revolutionary gains against the enemies' war provocation maneuvers.

In connection with the "Team Spirit-84" joint military exercise, which the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique began on 1 February, the joint meeting of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and Central Military Commission discussed the tense situation prevailing in our country and adopted a letter from the party Central Committee addressed to all party members.

HAWKE, CHON REMARKS, TALKS PROPOSALS SCORED

SK090129 (Clandestine) Voice of the RPR in Korean to South Korea 1000 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Station commentary: "An Intolerable Challenge to Public Opinion at Home and Abroad"]

[Text] At the 6 February summit talks with Australian Prime Minister Hawke, whom Chon Tu-hwan had invited as part of the game of invitation diplomacy, the latter raved that the question of the Korean peninsula should be solved through talks between the North and South Korean authorities concerned, after maliciously slandering North Korea's proposal for a tripartite meeting as a disguised propaganda offensive. Staying in tune with all this, Australian Prime Minister Hawke stressed that 4-way or 6-way talks are more desirable than a tripartite meeting proposed by North Korea. Indeed, this is preposterous.

As for the idea of talks between the North and South Korean authorities concerned -- which were clamorously babbled about by Chon Tu-hwan -- this is useless, hypocritical propaganda. As is known, South Korea is a complete U.S. colony, and Chon Tu-hwan is a marionette of colonial South Korea.

It is crystal clear that talks with the scarecrow authorities who have no substantial rights at all, including the prerogative of the supreme command of the army, would mean nothing. This has been clearly proven by the entire course of the North-South dialogue which was arranged in the past after a long interval. Nevertheless, traitor Chon Tu-hwan once again clamorously babbled about talks between the North and South Korean authorities concerned -- a variation on the talks between the high-level North and South Korean authorities which had been strongly protested and denounced at home and abroad and whose true color had been fully exposed. This is a ridiculous attempt to mislead public opinion at home and abroad by pretending that he is interested in the reunification of the Korean peninsula.

Traitor Chon Tu-hwan's advocating of such threadbare stuff, instead of listening to North Korea's recent proposal for a tripartite meeting at a time when the voices of our people and the broad strata of the international community are roaring support and approval of this proposal, shows that he is taking an insincere attitude toward North Korea's fair, just proposal for holding the tripartite talks to guarantee peace on the Korean peninsula and to expedite the fatherland's independent and peaceful reunification. This once again vividly shows that traitor Chon Tu-hwan is actually not interested in peace and the reunification of the Korean peninsula. This also shows his true color as a splittist.

In particular, we should not overlook the fact that, staying in tune with the splittist maneuvers of traitor Chon Tu-hwan, Australian Prime Minister Hawke raved that 4-way or 6-way talks are more desirable than the tripartite talks proposed by North Korea. These remarks by Hawke are a challenge to public opinion at home and abroad supporting and approving the proposal on the tripartite talks and are an improper act of throwing cold water on the ardent desire of the people at home and abroad for peace and the peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula. This behavior by a nation's prime minister, this utterance -- playing into another's hands, with neither political vision nor creed -- that 4-way or 6-way talks are more desirable than tripartite talks is very detestable. As for the 4-way or 6-way talks which Hawke advocated, speaking for Chon Tu-hwan, they require that countries other than the United States [migukoe] participate in talks designed to peacefully solve the question of the Korean peninsula. This is not appropriate or practical at all.

It is the United States that has increased the military capability of the U.S. forces in this land today and has shipped nuclear weapons and great quantities of military hardware to South Korea. It is the United States that has accelerated the modernization of the military capability of the South Korean Armed Forces and has daily kicked up war exercise rackets against North Korea by instigating them. In other words, the basic responsibility for the increase of the danger of war and for the heightening of tension in this land rests with the United States, which has seized all substantial rights in South Korea, including the prerogative of the supreme command of the Army.

The United States is the party concerned, the party who signed the Armistice Agreement. No other country has, while directly interfering in the internal affairs of our country, heightened tension and increased the danger of war like the United States. No other country has deployed its troops in this land like the United States. It is crystal clear that, by participating in talks designed to peacefully solve the question of the Korean peninsula, countries other than the United States cannot solve the question of the Korean peninsula in the interest of our people. Nevertheless, the Australian prime minister, who has nothing to do with the question of the Korean peninsula, raved about such an impractical question as 4-way or 6-way talks. This shows that he is a member of the band of the U.S. imperialists and that he opposes peace and the peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula.

In a word, the so-called talks between the persons concerned, which were clamorously babbled about by traitor Chon Tu-hwan at the summit talks with the Australian prime minister, and the 4-way or 6-way talks which were referred to by Hawke, contradict the tripartite talks proposed by North Korea. These talks proposals clearly show that they are still not interested in the reunification of the Korean peninsula and that they are seeking the perpetuation of the present division.

Our people will never tolerate the crime committed by the splittists at home and abroad in maneuvering to perpetuate the division of the people. The ruling authorities should correctly view the situation, should behave discreetly, and should respond sincerely to North Korea's proposal for the tripartite talks -- a most practical, rational one for peacefully solving the question of the Korean peninsula.

#### SUPPORT FOR TRIPARTITE TALKS PROPOSAL REPORTED

USSR's Kovalenko Cited

SK090427 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0355 GMT 9 Feb 84

["Soviet Union Supports Proposal for Tripartite Talks" -- KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang February 9 (KCNA) -- Ivan Kovalenko, deputy director of the International Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, who headed a party workers delegation of the CPSU on a visit to Japan, expressed support to the DPRK's proposal for tripartite talks, according to a foreign press report. In his talk with cadres of the Japan Socialist Party in Tokyo on February 1, he said that the Soviet Union supports this proposal of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for easing the tensions on the Korean peninsula and solving the Korean question by peaceful means.



The party Central Military Commission also handed down the order of the supreme commander of the KPA to all units of the KPA, and to all members of the Korean People's Security Forces, the Workers-Peasants Red Guard, and the Young Red Guards.

This is the most just measure against the current prevailing situation. The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Today, South Korea has been turned into a most dangerous war powder magazine, a U.S. nuclear war base, and a very dangerous situation in which war may break out at any moment prevails in our country.

The "Team Spirit-84" joint military exercise which the U.S. imperialist aggressors and the South Korean puppet clique are holding is the product of the policy of the undisguised war and aggression that the U.S. imperialists have pursued against us.

In accordance with their aggressive Asian policy, the U.S. imperialists are accelerating the tripartite military alliance among the United States, Japan, and South Korea, and, introducing nuclear weapons and modern war means in large numbers, have turned South Korea into a most dangerous war powder magazine and forward nuclear base. Since 1976 the U.S. imperialists have expanded, step by step, the joint military exercise called "Team Spirit."

A large number of troops, as many as 200,000, aircraft capable of carrying nuclear weapons, including B-52 strategic bombers, and missiles are being newly hurled into the "Team Spirit-84" joint military exercise, which the villains are holding, is a preliminary war and a nuclear test war for completing war preparations against us. Indeed, the danger of a nuclear war in Korea is being presented as a realistic problem of today, not of tomorrow.

The U.S. imperialists are conducting the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise under the excuse of the southward invasion threat from the North. But that is no more than a smokescreen for concealing their heinous color as an aggressor. The joint meeting of the Central People's Committee and the SPA Standing Committee of the DPRK and the Third Session of the Seventh SPA, held some time ago, enunciated the holding of tripartite talks as a new measure for peaceful solution of the Korean question, which allows the South Korean authorities to also participate in the talks between us and the United States, and proposed that the U.S. and South Korean authorities accede to the tripartite talks.

Our proposal for holding the tripartite talks started from the standpoint that the parties who are responsible for the solution of the Korean question should gather together, eliminate the danger of war prevailing on the Korean peninsula through the method of dialogue and negotiation, maintain and consolidate peace, and explore the peaceful phase for solution of the Korean question. Instead of positively acceding to our fair and just proposal, however, the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan puppet clique held the "Team Spirit-84" joint military exercise, and answered with undisguised war maneuvers.

The joint military exercise, which the villains are frantically conducting, is a vicious challenge to all the Korean people, who aspire for peace on the Korean peninsula and the fatherland's independent and peaceful reunification, and is a grave threat to peace in Asia and the world. All of our youths cannot suppress their surging indignation at the villains' new war provocation maneuvers, and resolutely condemn the villains' frantic war maneuvers. Conducting the war exercise on an unprecedented scale, the U.S. imperialists are trying to scare our people. But they can never scare them. The villains frantically run amok with the maneuvers for war and aggression, but there will be nothing to be gained therefrom. Those who like to play with fire are doomed to die in the flames.

All of our youths will make complete political and ideological preparations to defend with their lives the party, the leader, the fatherland, and its revolutionary gains against the new war provocation maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique. And all of our youths will always perform the role of a vanguard and a shock brigade in the struggle to thoroughly implement the programmatic tasks that the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song set forth in this year's New Year address and the decisions of the eight plenum of the sixth party Central Committee.

Our youths will unreservedly display the spirit of youth in the construction front at the five districts, and will effect a new great revolutionary upsurge in all sectors of economic and defense construction. The might of our people united rock-firm around the party and the leader is beyond comparison, and our people and youths will surely and reliably safeguard their fatherland and revolutionary gains from any maneuvers of war and aggression of the enemies.

#### Figures in South Respond

SK081349 (Clandestine) Voice of the RPR in Korean to South Korea 1000 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] People from all strata are now condemning the criminal "Team Spirit-84" South Korean-U.S. joint military exercise. A certain Choe, a worker residing in Seoul, strongly denounced the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan ring for staging the "Team Spirit-84" joint military exercise. Saying that the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan ring will trigger a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula, he continued: It is definitely ominous that, under a touch-and-go situation in which war may break out at any moment, the "Team Spirit-84" joint military exercise, a nuclear war exercise, is now being staged with the huge mobilization of U.S. troops and military equipment from the U.S. mainland, Hawaii, Guam, the Philippines, and Okinawa of Japan.

This shows how frantically the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan ring are running wild to trigger a nuclear war in this land. Our people should not allow the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan ring to make our nation the victim of the ravages of nuclear war. We do not want to die for the interests of the United States. The U.S. imperialists have more clearly bared to the world their true colors as our enemy and as the enemy of human civilization.

The United States should stop the war exercise and should withdraw from this land, taking along nuclear weapons.

A certain Yi, a student at Seoul National University, said: It is a vicious challenge to our nation and masses that, at a time when our youths, students, and patriotic people of all strata are calling for the withdrawal of U.S. forces from South Korea and the peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula, the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan ring are staging the war exercise, the largest-ever in history. He continued: While talking about dialogue and peaceful reunification, the Reagan government and the Chon Tu-hwan ring are staging the "Team Spirit-84" war exercise. This exposes again that what they say about dialogue and peaceful reunification is nothing but a false slogan for propaganda purposes.

For the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan ring to stage the nuclear war exercise, mobilizing huge numbers of troops and the latest military equipment, despite the North's proposal for tripartite talks for peace on the Korean peninsula and its independent and peaceful reunification, shows precisely that the South Korean and U.S. authorities are desperately opposed to peace on the Korean peninsula and to its peaceful reunification.



We strongly oppose the "Team Spirit-84" nuclear war exercise which is being staged for the completion of a war of northward invasion in a bid to reduce our land to ruins and to mercilessly kill our nation.

The U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan ring should immediately stop the "Team Spirit-84" South Korean-U.S. joint military exercise which runs counter to peace on the Korean peninsula and to its peaceful reunification.

#### U.S. 'AGGRESSIVE DESIGN' IN LEBANON SCORED

SK081047 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1040 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Pyongyang February 8 (KCNA) -- A commentary of MINJU CHOSON today says the jargon of the U.S. imperialist warmaniacs that the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Lebanon would bring about destruction and aggression on Lebanon by someone disclosed their brigandish aggressive design on Lebanon.

The author of the commentary says: U.S. President Reagan recently claimed that the withdrawal of U.S. Marines from Lebanon would be greatly detrimental to the "U.S. interests" and U.S. Secretary of State Shultz stated that to discuss the problem of withdrawal of U.S. Marines from Lebanon would cause destruction in Lebanon and encourage someone to rule this country.

The U.S. imperialists are insisting, distorting reality, that the presence of U.S. forces in Lebanon is "beneficial." This shows that they are hard at work to invent a pretext for the permanent occupation of Lebanon by their aggression forces and try to keep that country under their domination.

The Lebanese question is one related to the internal affairs and sovereignty of the Lebanese people and is not one the United States should meddle in. There is no reason or pretext for the U.S. imperialist aggression forces to occupy Lebanon.

The U.S. imperialists must look squarely at the desire of the people for independence and the demand of the times and withdraw from Lebanon without delay, taking along all their aggression forces and combat equipment.

#### MEETING OF SOUTH'S AMPHIBIOUS COMMANDERS CONDEMNED

SK081015 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2255 GMT 7 Feb 84

[NODONG SINMUN 8 February commentary: "A Reckless, Heinous Scheme for War"]

[Text] On 3 February, a meeting of the commanders of amphibious forces was held, presided over by the puppet chief of naval operations. According to a news report, while clamorously babbling about someone's provocations at this meeting, the puppets discussed the concentration of efforts on developing various tactical capabilities, especially capabilities for amphibious tactical operations.

This conspiratorial war conference coincided with the staging, by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique, of the largest joint military exercise in history, called "Team Spirit-84," with the mobilization of over 200,000 men, comprising a vast force, and sophisticated military hardware.

It is a very unusual move that, at a time when the whole of South Korea has entered a phase of complete combat readiness and when vast, aggressive armed forces are swarming into the Korean peninsula, the puppets held a military conference under the pretext of developing capability for amphibious tactical operations. This shows that the war rackets kicked up by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique to attack the northern half of the republic have reached a very reckless phase.

It is no secret that the Chon Tu-hwan ring has traversed the road toward military adventurism, positively following the U.S. imperialists' policy of aggression and war. Having designated this year as the one completing the posture of winning certain victory in the initial stage of a war, the puppets are frantically running amok to develop their military capability. The command system of the puppet armed forces has been reorganized toward strengthening their mobility, and the modernization of military hardware has been accelerated with offensive weapons as the centerpiece. Not satisfied with acts leaving South Korea as the war powderkeg and nuclear forward base of the U.S. imperialists, the puppets are pleading with their U.S. masters for the deployment in South Korea of new, medium-range Pershing and cruise nuclear missiles and even of neutron weapons, a most brutal weapon of mass destruction. War exercises have been more frequently staged to develop tactical capability, thus assuming a wicked nature, and military provocations in the area along the Military Demarcation Line have been stepped up.

As has been clearly proven by facts, the recent conspiratorial military conference of the puppet clique was aimed at accelerating preparations for an attack on us, supported by the U.S. imperialists.

The war rackets kicked up by the Chon Tu-hwan ring are the dangerous crimes of destroying peace and of causing the dark clouds of war to gather. While stepping up war rackets, the Chon Tu-hwan clique has made a stereotyped excuse, saying that it has kicked up these rackets to cope with someone's provocations. This is preposterous. This is a sophistry designed to conceal its wicked scheme for northward invasion.

We have repeatedly declared that we have no intention of southward invasion. It is our consistent stand and policy to eliminate tension in Korea, to preserve a durable peace, and to solve the reunification question peacefully. Our new proposal to hold a tripartite meeting once again clearly proves this.

It is the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique, a group of their stooges, who have sought provocations in Korea. By raising a fuse to spread theory on the nonexistent threat of southward invasion, they can never conceal their true color as the ringleaders, leading the situation on the Korean peninsula to the grave phase of the eve of war by recklessly kicking up war rackets. Instead of seeking North-South confrontation and war, the South Korean puppet clique should respond to our new proposal for tripartite talks -- one for peacefully solving the Korean question.

#### NODONG SINMUN SCORES SOUTH FOR STRESSING SECURITY

SK071553 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1526 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Pyongyang February 7 (KCNA) NODONG SINMUN today in an article raps at the South Korean puppets for giving top priority to "strengthening of security force" in the "goal of the administrative policy" for this year, babbling about "provocation of the North" and the like.

The author of the article says: The puppets' clamour about "provocation of the North" is a variation of the argument on "threat of southward invasion" and a fiction of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets for justifying their scheme to start a war against the North.

Under this deceptive slogan the scheme to unleash a war against the North has been openly stepped up and a war system strengthened to mobilize all human and material resources.

Running hogwild in strengthening the fascist suppressive system from the outset of the year, the Chon Tu-hwan group is hastening the completion of a U.S.-Japan-South Korea tripartite military alliance and spurring on war preparations and arms buildup against the fellow countrymen in accordance with the aggressive policy of the United States. The joint military exercises started by the puppets together with the U.S. forces from early this month prove that they are more recklessly scheming together with the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries to "reinforce the tripartite security system" and complete the "posture of war against the North."

Today more than 40,000 U.S. troops are entrenched in South Korea and huge standing armed forces including the puppet army over 700,000 strong armed with U.S. equipment and paramilitary forces over 10 million strong are always in combat readiness. U.S. President Reagan who visited South Korea last year to examine and direct war preparations threatened us that "strike by nuclear weapons" would not be ruled out in Korea. This tells that the U.S. imperialists who have deployed many nuclear weapons in South Korea and worked out a nuclear war plan against our republic are now watching for a chance to carry it into effect.

The Chon Tu-hwan group is chanting "security" ballad not because of "threat of southward invasion." In fact, it needs this ballad to justify the war moves against the North, which it is stepping up together with the U.S. imperialists, and maintain the military fascist dictatorship.

Under the pretext of "security" the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are brandishing weapons. However, there is no change in our stand to provide a firm guarantee for peace on the Korean peninsula and peaceful reunification through tripartite talks. The United States and the South Korean authorities must show a positive response to our realistic and reasonable proposal for tripartite talks.

#### RELEASE OF STUDENTS IN SOUTH MOVE TO WIN 'POPULARITY'

SK090607 (Clandestine) Voice of the RPR in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] On 8 February, the Ministry of Justice released 48 students, including Kim Yang-chin, senior in the Department of Political Sciences of Korea University, whom it illegally arrested in connection with the campus disturbance.

The ministry is loudly propagandizing that this step was taken in accordance with the political ideas of traitor Chon Tu-hwan. This is a trick designed to conceal the true color of a fascist tyrant and to win popularity.

The Chon Tu-hwan clique's arresting and imprisoning of the students who waged the just struggle for campus freedom, democracy of society, and national reunification are illegal and a criminal act.

However, the Chon Tu-hwan clique arrested and imprisoned them, persecuting them in various ways. This time, it released them, loudly propagandizing as if it extended special benevolence. All this is aimed at deceiving the people. The Chon Tu-hwan clique should stop acting in a shabby sort of way and immediately release all students in prisons and houses of detention.

KIM YONG-NAM HOLDS TALKS WITH WU XUEQIAN 7 FEB

SK090517 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2207 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Beijing February 8 (KCNA) -- Talks were held in Beijing on February 7 between Korean Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, who is on a visit to China, and Chinese State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian.

Present at the talks on our side were the party of the vice-premier and foreign minister and Korean Ambassador to China Sin In-ha. Present on the opposite side were Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Gong Dafei, Assistant Foreign Minister Liu Shuqin, Chinese Ambassador to Korea Zong Kewen and personages concerned.

At the talks Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam clarified the stand of our country for convening tripartite talks to solve the Korean question and declared that the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea would continue to strive for the realisation of the tripartite talks.

State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian noted that the proposal for tripartite talks was a reasonable one, which would help ease the strained situation on the Korean peninsula and promote the peaceful reunification of Korea. He stressed that China would make continued efforts for the realisation of the tripartite talks.

The conversation took place in a friendly atmosphere.

USSR STATE PLANNING DELEGATION ARRIVES ON VISIT

SK070451 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2200 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Pyongyang February 7 (KCNA) -- A delegation of the State Planning Committee of the USSR headed by deputy director of a department of the committee A.G. Bondarenko arrived here by air Monday.

YO YON-KU MEETS VISITING TAEKWONDO FEDERATION FIGURE

SK040451 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2209 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Pyongyang February 4 (KCNA) -- Choe Hong-hui, President of the International Federation of Taekwondo, and his party arrived in Pyongyang on February 3 by air.

They were met at the airport by Yo Yon-ku, director of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland; Kim Tok-chun, vice-chairman of the Korean Physical Culture and Sports Guidance Committee and chairman of the Korean Society of Taekwondo, with warm compatriotic sentiments.

Choe Hong-hui met his relative at the airport.



VRPR ON NATIONAL GLORY OF UPHOLDING TWO KIMS

SK080809 (Clandestine) Voice of the RPR in Korean to South Korea 1000 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Roundtable talk among station announcers, Kim, Yun, and Ko and Madam Yun, with an introduction by announcers Kim and Yun, from "Today's Feature" program]

[Text] [Kim] A certain Yi, an employee of a company, who was recently in the Middle East and Africa, said: I have never felt before the confidence and pride of being a member of the nation. Our nation stands in the brightest spotlight in the world because it holds in high esteem the great General Kim Il-song and the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

[Announcer Yun] A certain Kim, a reporter of the foreign news department of a newspaper, who has been in the Americas, said: Whenever I visited foreign countries, I felt sadness as a citizen of the colony of South Korea, but I have overcome great pain with confidence and pride in being a member of the nation which holds in high esteem the great Gen Kim Il-song and the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

[Kim] Never before in the long history of the nation has there been such a time as now, when our nation is in the limelight of the world. This is attributable to the fact that our nation holds in high esteem the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, who it has greeted for the first time in a thousand-year history, as the sun that saved the people and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chon-il as the heir to the chuche cause.

[Announcer Yun] I think that our nation's glory of upholding in high esteem the great leader and the dear leader is matchless. In this hour, we will talk about our nation's glory with Mr Ko Hui-chol and Madam Yun. How are you, everyone?

[All others] How are you?

[Announcer Yun] We have said that our nation is in the spotlight as a proud nation, upholding two great leaders [yongdoja]. First of all, will you talk about the origins of national glory?

[Madam Yun] Whether or not a nation enjoys glory depends on how great a leader it upholds. For this reason, the greatness of a nation depends on that of its leader. Only a nation which upholds an outstanding leader [suryong] and a distinguished leader [yongdoja] can be a nation with high pride and can [word indistinct] national confidence and pride.

[Ko] That is correct. Only a nation which upholds an outstanding leader can enjoy glory as a nation with great pride; a nation which does not uphold an outstanding leader suffers from ordeals. This is a stark fact, confirmed by our nation's past history of sufferings.

In the past, our nation for a long period, could only traverse a road of tears of agony. This was because it did not uphold an outstanding leader who would lead our nation.

For example, when our nation was groaning under the Japanese imperialists, fellow countrymen could only leave their beloved homeland and go to North Chientao of Hawaii because they were deprived of the country. Patriotic fighters tried to conduct the movement of a liberation army, and 1 March uprising, and the 10 June struggle, but they resulted in bitter failure and sacrifice.



[Madam Yun] Martyr Yi Chun committed suicide by disembowelment when his petition for independence was not accepted at the second International Peace Conference in the Hague. Martyr An Chung-kun did not realize his goal of independence even though he assassinated Ito Hirobumi at the Harbin railway station. Those who once babbled about independence while putting forth a so-called idea or doctrine and [words indistinct] yielded under the suppression of the Japanese imperialists.

The long-cherished desire of the masses to find a leader who would guide the nation and save fellow countrymen overshadowed the whole of the land. Our fellow countrymen eagerly awaited the emergence of a distinguished, outstanding, great leader.

[Kim] Indeed, at that time the whole nation was eagerly awaiting the emergence of a leader [yongdoja]. It was none but Gen Kim Il-song, the sun of the nation, who emerged, personifying such ardent aspirations and the demands of the times.

Embarking upon the revolutionary road, driven by the great ambition of liberating the nation, he drew profound lessons from the past struggles, which had been caught in the midst of a vicious circle of failure and frustration, and, I think, brilliantly unfolded the path that our nation had to follow.

[Madam Yun] That is right. when the great Comrade Kim Il-song embarked upon the revolutionary road, the communists and nationalists who claimed they were launching a movement to liberate the nation did not think of going among the vast masses to summon them to struggle after enlightening and opening their eyes. Instead, they were devoted to struggle over leadership or paying lip-service, eventually splitting the masses through their factional strife. Also, while committing toadyist acts under the protection of big countries, they tried to copy examples set by others, ignoring our country's conditions and concrete reality. Naturally, they could not pioneer the revolutionary path.

The great leader is said to have learned a profound lesson from the consequences of such toadyism and dogmatism. While educating the masses by mingling with them, the great leader explored the revolutionary path on the basis of the firm self-reliant stand of resolving all problems in accordance with individual circumstances and to taking responsibility for the consequences arising therefrom. He urged all the people in the nation to rise in the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

[Announcer Yun] The great leader, who illuminated the path that the nation should follow, led the sacred national liberation struggle at its head.

[Madam Yun] After having organized the self-reliant anti-Japanese armed struggle, the great general then founded the Korean Revolutionary Army [KRA], the first revolutionary armed force, and waged a well-organized armed struggle.

As it was an unprecedented struggle aimed at liberating the nation from colonial status, nobody had any experience with which to make recommendations in the anti-Japanese armed struggle. Moreover, this anti-Japanese armed struggle did not receive any assistance from the rear or support from the regular army; therefore, it was an unprecedentedly arduous revolutionary war which had to be fought against the brigandish Japanese imperialists with everything -- weapons, food, and clothes -- made by the people within the armed ranks.

Despite this, the great general, with the conviction that this struggle would be won, led the anti-Japanese armed struggle on a single road leading to victory, braving all difficulties.

The victory of the anti-Japanese armed struggle was an unprecedentedly great victory won by the masses of the colony who, with arms in hand, fought the colonial suzerain country. It was also a victory of the respected and beloved Gen Kim Il-song's chuche idea and his chuche-oriented strategy, tactics, and campaign plans, and a brilliant fruition of his wise leadership.

[Ko] Even after he triumphantly returned home following national liberation, the great leader Gen Kim Il-song illuminated the path that the nation had to follow. Immediately after national liberation, he resolutely respected all leftist-leaning ideologies, such as ideas that claimed to be a road leading to socialism and to bourgeoisie, and launched our nation on the course of Korean democracy, neither American style nor Soviet style. In other words, he led our nation on a progressive democratic road.

This road was the one and only correct road to build an independent sovereign state in opposition to toadyism and dogmatism. Having illuminated the path that the nation had to follow, the great Gen Kim Il-song successfully pushed ahead with the historic cause of founding the party, the state, and the army. Also, in order to liberate all of our people from all sorts of feudalistic sufferings and [word indistinct], he put into force various democratic reforms, such as land reform, labor laws, and laws designed to nationalize industry, thus laying the foundation for a wealthy, independent, and sovereign nation in which the working people are the masters.

When the U.S. imperialist aggressors provoked the Korean war to nip the North in its bud, the great general resolutely defeated the enemy, which was superior in numbers and technology, through his unusual leadership and by political, ideological, tactical, and strategic superiority. The U.S. imperialists' myth of powerfulness came asunder and they started marching on the downward path.

[Madam Yun] Also, he began to build a foundation for a new life on the ruins from which the U.S. imperialists said there would be no recovery, even after 100 years, as if to demonstrate our strength to them.

The great leader has established foundations for the self-reliant economy by leading the entire party, the whole country, and all the people to a new road, which no one has ever trodden, of simultaneously developing light industry and agriculture while ensuring the primary development and rehabilitation of heavy industry. He also introduced cooperative farming into agriculture and remodeled the urban handicraft and capitalist social industries into socialist ones, thus successfully completing the remodeling of production management in urban and rural areas into a socialist one in a brief period of 4 or 5 years. Furthermore, he established the socialist system in which the source of exploitation and oppression is completely eradicated. The great leader attained remarkable successes in implementing the three revolutions of ideology, technology, and culture by defining them as a revolutionary task which, even after the socialist system is established, should be continuously carried out until communism is built. As a result of these, the North has entered the utopia of the masses in which everyone is well off, and has been praised as a paradise on earth and a socialist model country.

[Kim] All exploits of developing our nation into a great nation and embroidering national history, which was filled with dishonor, with the most brilliant [word indistinct] are viewed as being linked to the lofty name of the respected and beloved leader.

[Announcer Yun] I can say that our nation has been able to enjoy greater glory because it has upheld the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as the sun of the nation. Let's listen to a song and continue the discussion. [song interposed]

[Kim] Having enjoyed great glory by greeting the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song for the first time in our thousand-year national history and by upholding him in high esteem, our masses are enjoying again matchless confidence of and pride in upholding in high esteem Comrade Kim Chong-il, the great star of guidance, who is resplendently inheriting the chuche revolutionary cause, as an outstanding leader [yongdoja].

[Madam Yun] Various beautiful episodes about the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il have been spread among our masses throughout the country. This is viewed as unreservedly displaying the matchless pride and confidence of our masses who have enjoyed glory by upholding the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song as the sun of the nation and as the savior of reunification and who are upholding in high esteem the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as a brilliant heir to the chuche cause.

[Announcer Yun] The glory and joy of upholding the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il [words indistinct] along with the great leader Gen Kim Il-song are indeed matchless.

[Madam Yun] That is right. Defending and perfecting the leader's cause are a very important question connected with the destiny of the revolution.

Some countries have gone through turns and twists because they have not correctly settled the question of inheriting their leaders' cause. However, our nation has perfectly solved the question of inheriting the leader's revolutionary cause by upholding in high esteem the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as a leader [yongdoja]. As a result of this, not only the future of our nation but also that of the world's revolution is (?bright).

For this reason, our nation and the whole world are very pleased to admire and uphold in high esteem the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as a leader along with the great Gen Kim Il-song.

[Kim] It can be said that, with the greatest loyalty to the respected and beloved leader Gen Kim Il-song, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is successfully accelerating the revolution and construction through his energetic ideological and theoretical activities and brilliant guidance.

[Madam Yun] The most important thing which a heir should possess in the work of inheriting the revolutionary cause which the leader has pioneered is boundless loyalty to the leader who has pioneered the revolutionary cause. The dear comrade leader possesses burning loyalty to the great leader. He is conducting energetic activities to put into practice the leader's intentions and plans, admiring and upholding in high esteem the respected and beloved Gen Kim Il-song who has devoted everything to the prosperity and development of the nation and to its greatest happiness.

The dear comrade leader defined and proclaimed the great leader's revolutionary thoughts as Kimilsongism and has elucidated scientifically and theoretically their profound content, characteristics, greatness, and [word indistinct], thereby resplendently making shine in the world the great Kimilsongism, the monolithic system of the unitary guiding thoughts, theories, and methods representing the present time and the future of communism. Thanks to his idea and theory of imbuing the whole society with Kimilsongism, the traits of communist society and a course for its construction have been completely delineated and a firm guarantee for brilliantly inheriting and consummating the chuche cause generation after generation has been provided.



Besides these, the dear comrade leader has even further developed and enriched the idea of remodeling the entire party on Kimilsongism, the idea of the speed battle -- a basic combat form of socialist construction -- communist humanics, and other theories on Kimilsongism in all fields of the revolution and construction.

[Ko] Thanks to the wise leadership of the dear comrade leader, remarkable successes have been attained in socialist economic construction. With extraordinary energy and drive, the dear comrade leader has put forth correct slogans to rouse the masses to revolutionary upswings. To give examples, he has laid down correct slogans, including the following: "Ideology, Technology, and Culture -- all as demanded by chuche!", "Study and life -- all in the manner of the anti-Japanese guerrillas!", "Let us live in our own way!", and "All forward to the speed battle."

He has also organized and mobilized the entire party and all people to the three revolutions team movement, the movement to win the red flag of the three revolutions, the movement to follow the examples of the unsung heroes, and the movement to create the speed of the 1980's, thus effecting an epochal change in the North.

The head of a delegation of the Central [word indistinct] of the Romanian Communist Party who has visited the North said: What we felt strongly during a few days in Korea is that a new idea and atmosphere are prevailing in Korea. We recognized that the atmosphere and mettle in Korea are those brought by the wise leadership of the esteemed leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. In Korea, we discovered a new type of country and people, the one and only country and people in the world.

[Madam Yun] The North, in which a new idea and atmosphere are overflowing, has effected a new turn in socialist economic construction. The economy is advancing along the road of chuche-orientation, scientification, and modernization. The plan for the kingdom of automation, in which the people are completely free from backbreaking labor, is being put into practice.

Having advanced at a high annual average speed of 15.9 percent in the 1970's, the North's industry is making progress at an annual average speed of nearly 17.9 percent in the 1980's. In agriculture, too, which envisages the completion of chemicalization and mechanization, the North has brought the chuche farming method into full bloom and has reaped a bumper harvest every year. As a result of the blossoming of the chuche-oriented idea of literature and art, the North is in the spotlight as the renaissance country in the 20th century. In construction and other fields of social life, the North is [words indistinct].

[Announcer Yun] I think that the dear comrade leader is also wisely leading the struggle for the independent reunification of the country and victory in the world revolution.

[Madam Yun] The dear comrade leader is exerting all efforts to achieve the country's reunification in our generation, upholding the great leader's lofty intention. Thanks to his efforts and energetic activities, a new phase in reunification is being provided. Our ranks of the revolution for reunification have been fostered and strengthened into the ranks of Kimilsongism in a perfect order. With great pride and confidence, the masses of all walks of life are fiercely fanning the flames of struggle for national liberation under the anti-U.S. banner for independence.

Today, the anti-U.S. waves for independence are flowing over this land. The masses from each party, faction, and stratum who love the country and the nation, are more widely joining in the anti-U.S. struggle for national liberation. They are firmly resolved to put an end to the U.S. imperialists' colonial rule in this land by staging struggle more valiantly.



No force in the world can block the firm resolve of the masses who, under the guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, are trying to accomplish the country's reunification at an early date.

[Ko] The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is greatly contributing to the development of the world revolution. The world peoples are greatly revering and praising the dear comrade leader as the outstanding leader who is leading a new world in the era of independence and as the genius of the revolution and construction.

[Kim] As we have said, our nation has upheld for the first time in history the great leader, who our fellow countrymen and the world peoples revere, uphold, and endlessly admire, as the sun saving the people. In addition, our nation is upholding in high esteem the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as the heir to the chuche cause. This is the greatest national glory.

As the world peoples are unanimously envious of our nation, our patriotic masses are in the limelight in the world as a nation with great pride because they are admiring and upholding in high esteem the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. How greatly proud our nation is! Other countries and nations are not upholding even one leader well. In particular, they are suffering from the successor question.

However, the future of the chuche cause is also promising because our nation is upholding two great leaders [suryong] in one generation. This is such a great event and glory. This glory is thought to be national glory and the glory of the times.

To further make this glory shine, we should make absolute the dignity of the great leader Gen Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, regard the idea and intentions of the leader and the comrade leader as (?our life), and embody them in the practice of the revolution, cherishing, deep in mind, boundless loyalty to them.

#### NODONG SINMUN LAUDS REVOLUTIONARY COMRADESHIP

SK071532 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1511 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Pyongyang February 7 (KCNA) -- NODONG SINMUN today comes out with an article titled "Revolutionary Comradeship Is Basis of Unity and Cohesion of Revolutionary Ranks."

What is important in strengthening the unity and cohesion of the revolutionary ranks is to give full scope to revolutionary comradeship on the basis of the party's monolithic ideological system in all domains and all units, the article notes, and says: Revolution demands unity, ensures victory. Comradeship is indispensable for unity in ideology and purpose.

Revolutionary comradeship is a firm basis of unity and cohesion of the revolutionary ranks. Comradeship is a true love between revolutionary comrades who have the same idea and purpose.

To highly display revolutionary comradeship on the basis of the party's monolithic ideological system makes it possible, first of all, to further strengthen the unity between the leader and the soldier, between the leader and the people, in ideology and purpose.

The leader is the centre of the unity and cohesion of the revolutionary ranks and the relationship between the leader and the soldier is the culminating point in the relations between revolutionary comrades who share weal and woe with one another.

Apart from revolutionary comradeship based on loyalty to the leader, it is impossible to talk about the unity of the revolutionary ranks around the leader in ideology and purpose.

Only by giving full scope to revolutionary comradeship on the basis of loyalty to the leader is it possible to make the centre of unity and cohesion unshakable, and to develop the relationship between the leader and the soldier, between the leader and the people into a kindred one which no force can break.

To highly display revolutionary comradeship also makes it possible to further strengthen the unity and cohesion around the leader through sound ideological unity between comrades on the basis of the party's monolithic ideology. The solidity of the unity and cohesion of the revolutionary ranks lies in centering around the leader and in comradely relations between all people on the basis of one idea.

The chuche idea is a great idea of unity which enables our revolutionary ranks to firmly unite in ideology on the basis of the one and the same ideology and idea.

The sacred struggle for modelling the whole party and the whole society of the chuche idea which is guided by our party is the cause of unity and cohesion to make all members of society breathe and act on the basis of one idea, the chuche idea.

Therefore, to highly display revolutionary comradeship is a most important and honorable work to firmly defend the unity and cohesion which has been consolidated historically by the Korean Communists and carry the revolutionary cause of chuche to completion.

Pointing out that the true communists of Korea established the tradition of unity in ideology and purpose, the article declares that this unity has been further cemented through a protracted period and is firmly defended under the leadership of our party centre.

#### NORTHERN RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION MAKES HEADWAY

SK031336 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1046 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Pyongyang February 3 (KCNA) -- The northern railway construction is making brisk headway in Korea. The construction of four tunnels and 12 bridges has already been finished. More than 30 tunnels were cut and the projects of over 20,000 square metres of walls and roadbed extending over 20 kilometres were completed.

This railway construction is a difficult and vast one entailing the construction of tunnels with a total extension of tens of kilometres and many bridges and laying roadbed across steep mountains.

The northern railway construction is planned to be finished before the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea (scheduled for 1986).

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il assigned this honorable work to young people and is wisely directing the construction a whole. He provided the constructors with all kinds of necessary conditions for construction including helicopters and modern construction machines and is meticulously taking care of their life.

This inspired the young railway builders to continue heightening the construction tempo despite the severe cold fares of degrees below zero. These days they are carrying out their daily assignments [word indistinct] times on an average in the tunnelling and roadbed construction. Big successes are being registered in the bridge and transmission line construction.

When the northern railway construction is completed, the [word indistinct] of the country's railways will be further replenished and gigantic circling lines be formed, which will bring about a new change in the development of natural resources and the material and cultural life on people in the northern region.

#### LOCAL BUDGETARY REVENUES SAID STEADILY INCREASING

SK040439 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1502 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Pyongyang February 3 (KCNA) -- The local budget is steadily increasing in Korea. The local budget by revenues have grown 2.4 times during the last decade.

In this period the provinces, cities and counties have supplied 8,472.85 million won to the state budget after fully meeting with their revenues the expenditure for local economic and cultural construction and improvement of people's living.

The local budgetary system is a unique socialist budgetary system under which the local power bodies manage the local economy by themselves without depending on the state under the unified and planned guidance of the state.

The foundation of the local industry was further consolidated last year. More than 400 medium and small chemical factories, subfactories, workshops and work teams have made their appearance in local areas to markedly increase the production of basic chemical materials and various chemical goods.

With the construction of a good many medium and small cement factories, oil mills and food processing factories, the local building-material bases and the local light industrial bases have been strengthened still further.

The local industry depending on its own solid raw material bases accounts for more than a half of the nation's consumer goods production and serves as an important source of the local budgetary revenue.

#### BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO GABON DEPARTS -- Pyongyang January 31 (KCNA) -- Chon Yong-u, ambassador of our country to Gabon, on January 26 paid a farewell call on El Hadj Omar Bongo, president of Gabon. The ambassador conveyed friendly regards of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song to the present. The president expressed deep thanks for this and asked the ambassador to convey his whole hearted greetings to the great leader. He said he always hopes for the realisation of Korea's reunification. He expressed satisfaction over the favorable development of the friendly and cooperative relations between Gabon and Korea and the belief that these relations would develop more favorably in the future. The talk proceeded in a friendly atmosphere. Present there was the director of the presidential office. [Text] [Pyongyang KCNA in English 2202 GMT 30 Jan 84 SK]

LETTER RECEIVED FROM YI CHONG-OK ON N-S TALKS

SK090243 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0100 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] A government official today disclosed that a letter directed to Premier Chin Ui-chong from Yi Chong-ok, former premier of the State Administration Council of North Korea, in regard to the so-called proposal for tripartite talks which was adopted on 10 January by the joint meeting of the Central People's Committee of North Korea and the Standing committee of its SPA was received on 24 January through international mail. He said that the content of the letter was the same as what the North Korean side had already disclosed through a broadcast on 11 January.

The official said: On this, our side, through National Unification Minister Son Chae-sik's statement to the North, immediately disclosed our government's stand. However, because the North Korean side had sent the letter in Yi Chong-ok's name, our government, he said, has decided to send the prime minister's letter to the North and to request the North Korean side, through a broadcast, to accept our letter.

Reply To Be Sent 10 Feb

SK090134 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0100 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Today the government has decided to convey a letter in the name of Prime Minister Chin Ui-chong clarifying our government's position in connection with North Korea's proposal for so-called tripartite talks, to the North Korean side at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at Panmunjom at 1000 tomorrow morning. Follows the content of a notice to the North issued by Son Chae-sik, minister of the Unification Board, to the broadcast in connection with the conveying of the letter from Prime Minister Chin Ui-chong to the North:

In order to convey a letter from Chin Ui-chong, prime minister of the ROK, to Kang Song-san, premier of the State Administration Council of Pyongyang, in connection with a letter dated 11 January, 1984, from the North Korean side to the South, the ROK Government will send two liaison officers to the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at Panmunjom at 1000 on the morning of 10 February in 1984.

It is hoped the Pyongyang authorities will come to the place at the same time and accept the letter.

[Signed] 9 February; Son Chae-sik, minister of the Unification Board of the ROK

## Further Details

SK090703 Seoul YONHAP in English 0649 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Seoul, Feb 9 (OANA-YONHAP) -- South Korea Thursday said that it would send two liaison officers to Panmunjom truce village Friday morning to deliver a letter from its Prime Minister Chin Ui-Chong to North Korean Premier Kang Song-san in answer to North Korea's Jan. 11 call for tripartite talks.

In a message South Korean Unification Minister Son Chae-sik read twice over the state-run Korea Broadcasting System, Seoul called for Pyongyang to send its own men to the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission room in the truce village at 10 a.m. (01:00 GMT) Feb 10 to pick up Chin's letter.



On Jan. 11, North Korea proposed the so-called tripartite talks involving the United States and South and North Korea to discuss the unification of divided Korean peninsula. Pyongyang's overture was aired over radio Pyongyang in the name of the Central People's Committee and the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly. "In connection with the letter sent by the northern side dated Jan. 11, 1984, the Government of the Republic of Korea will send two liaison officers to the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom at 10 a.m. Feb. 10, 1984, to deliver a letter Prime Minister Chin Ui-chong is sending to Pyongyang's Premier Kang Song-san," Minister Son said. He asked the North to send its men to "the same place at the same time to pick up the letter."

A government source here said Thursday that Seoul on Jan. 24 received a letter concerning the North's overtures for tripartite talks Pyongyang sent through international mail in the name of its Premier Yi Chong-ok. Yi was later promoted to state vice president. The content of the North's letter was "already made public" over North Korean radio on Jan. 11," the source said.

Since the northern side mailed the letter to the South in the name of its Premier Yi Chong-ok, the source said: "Our government thus decided to send a letter to the North in the name of the prime minister." Seoul, immediately rejected Pyongyang's overtures, but renewed its standing call for a top-level inter-Korean dialogue. The Seoul side then raised doubt about the sincerity of Pyongyang's overtures, since they came before and after the Rangoon bomb attack last October on a visiting South Korean presidential party. Observers here said that Pyongyang's peace gesture was a ploy to recoup the diplomatic setback it suffered in the wake of the Rangoon terrorist attack engineered by North Korean saboteurs.

Seoul observers also said North Korea might seek to enter into a dialogue eventually with the United States only by way of the so-called tripartite talks.

#### KIM YONG-NAM'S VISIT TO CHINA ANALYZED

SK081150 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 8 Feb 84 p 3

[Commentary by Foreign News Department]

[Text] Kim Yong-nam, foreign minister of North Korea, set out on 7 February for a visit to Communist China. During his stay in Communist China, until 14 February, Kim will discuss the question of the Korean peninsula with leaders of Communist China, including Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian. Kim's visit to Communist China is the first official contact between high-ranking government officials of North Korea and Communist China since the Rangoon atrocity by North Korea.

Kim is the first North Korean foreign minister to visit Communist China in 9 years, since Ho Tam visited Communist China in April 1975, accompanying Kim Il-song. However, as for Kim Yong-nam, he has visited Communist China three times in the 1980's, as director of the International Department of the party. So this is reportedly his fourth visit to China.

Some people say that Kim's visit is a kind of formality, because it is his first visit after becoming foreign minister. However, most people think that Kim's visit is of great significance because of the delicate change in the situation surrounding the Korean peninsula.

Kim's visit is particularly noteworthy, because it takes place after Communist Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang's visit to the United States last month, and prior to Japanese Premier Nakasone's visit to China in March and U.S. President Reagan's visit to China in April.

Moreover, it is believed that North Korea and Communist China will seriously discuss the question of tripartite talks, because the proposal for tripartite talks, which North Korea put forth as part of the peace offensive toward the South to extricate itself from the diplomatic predicament created in the wake of the Rangoon atrocity, was reportedly Kim's idea.

Moreover, Kim is visiting Communist China under circumstances in which active sports exchanges are beginning between South Korea and Communist China with the entry into Communist China -- the first in history -- by South Korean tennis players for the ROK-Communist China second round East Asian Zone Davis Cup preliminaries to be held in Kunming City, Yunnan Province, from 2 to 4 April.

It is believed that North Korea will intensify its maneuvers to hamper sports exchanges between South Korea and Communist China. Above all, North Korea will certainly seek Communist China's active support for its proposal for tripartite talks. This is the point of interest in Kim's visit to China.

Officially, Communist China supports North Korea's proposal. However, Communist Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang, at talks with U.S. President Reagan during his visit to the United States last month, indirectly expressed, it was reported, his intention to participate in the negotiations on the question of the Korean peninsula.

On North Korea's proposal for tripartite talks, South Korea has proposed direct talks between the North and the South and adopted a stand that it can, if necessary for peace, consider 4-way talks in which Communist China would also participate, or even 6-way talks in which the Soviet Union and Japan would also participate.

If Communist China, unlike its official announcement, is willing to participate directly or indirectly in negotiations on the Korean question, this would bring a diplomatic dilemma for North Korea. In view of the present stand of North Korea, which pursues an equidistant diplomacy toward Communist China and the Soviet Union, Communist China's participation in negotiations on the Korean question would result in making North Korea's relations with the Soviet Union uncomfortable.

The participation of Communist China in negotiations on the question of the Korean peninsula would also result in disclosing the patent differences between North Korea and Communist China in their views on the presence of U.S. forces in South Korea.

Such a delicate position on the part of Communist China in regard to the question of the Korean peninsula can be seen in remarks by a Communist Chinese diplomatic official at a recent meeting with a French parliamentary delegation in Beijing. He was reported to have said: "China will not participate in negotiations on the question of the Korean peninsula for the time being. China does not want to be involved in the question of the withdrawal of U.S. forces from South Korea."

It seems that Communist China views the presence of U.S. forces in South Korea from a viewpoint of the U.S. strategy toward the Soviet Union, rather than as a war deterrent force against North Korea.

The basic position of Communist China and other countries around the Korean peninsula on the question of the Korean peninsula is to preserve peace in this region. In particular, stability on the Korean peninsula is indispensable for Communist China, which has set the ambitious goal of becoming an advanced country by 2000 through its four modernizations, if it is to achieve this goal.

Communist China seems to fear that, if a war broke out on the Korean peninsula, it would have to participate in the war and again repeat its precedent of making the country lag behind for over 30 years by participating in the Korean war in the 1950's.

The Rangoon bombing incident perpetrated by North Korea has led the countries around the Korean peninsula to further heighten their vigilance toward North Korea. The incident has also put Communist China, which has been asked to exercise influence on North Korea, in an awkward situation. It has been reported that Communist China is very skeptical about the situation in North Korea after Kim Il-song.

The U.S. paper, the LOS ANGELES TIMES, recently reported that Communist China has concluded that Kim Chong-il is not a figure who can completely control North Korean society as Kim Il-song does, that when he comes to real power, he will probably face strong resistance from the party and military, and that he may pursue a stronger hard-line to cope with this resistance.

The United States and Japan have maintained a stand in support of the South Korean proposal for talks between the North and South Korean authorities. But, an opportunity for peace is very expensive. Therefore, the statement by Wolfowitz, deputy assistant secretary of the U.S. Department of State, that the proposal for tripartite talks should also be prudently reviewed, is definitely suggestive.

#### PRC'S ZHAO ZIYANG CITED ON KOREAN SITUATION

SK090914 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 9 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] [Beijing -- AP -- REUTER -- YONHAP] Communist Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang is quoted as saying that Communist China no longer holds a view that reunification [chaetongil] of the Korean peninsula under a single government is possible. He is reported to have said this when he was meeting with visiting Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke on 8 February. Such remarks by Zhao Ziyang, which were confirmed by Australian officials accompanying Prime Minister Hawke and by the Communist Chinese Foreign Ministry, were the most clear-cut signal that the Beijing Government recognizes the irreconcilable differences that exist between North Korea and South Korea, which are supported by Communist China and the United States respectively.

Though Zhao Ziyang's remarks were not reported by the 8 February edition of RENMIN RIBAO, (Li Zhengchun), spokesman for the Communist Chinese Foreign Ministry, confirmed the explanation from the Australian side on what was discussed between Zhao Ziyang and Prime Minister Hawke. This spokesman is reported to have said that Zhao Ziyang had said: Communist China supports North Korea's proposal for tripartite talks. This is the one and only form of talks that could possibly be realized. I believe that unification of North and South Korea will only be realized in a way that maintains each side's inherent social system.

Prime Minister Hawke said, it is reported, that a solution for the Korean peninsula is impossible without a direct dialogue between North and South Korea. In response, Zhao Ziyang, it is reported, said that "Communist China, too, is worried by the tense situation on the Korean peninsula and that it hopes nothing will happen there."

Speaking at a press conference held on 8 February following his 3 hours of talks with Zhao Ziyang, Prime Minister Hawke said he had conveyed to Zhao Ziyang the stand of the Korean Government, which is interested in friendly relations with Communist China. He continued: Zhao Ziyang listened attentively to what I said. Only time will tell what his attentive reaction means.

Prime Minister Hawke is reported to have mentioned the Rangoon assassination bombing that was committed by the North Korean puppets last October during his talks with Zhao Ziyang and that the Australian Government had flatly refused North Korea's direct and indirect proposal for the resumption of diplomatic relations between Australia and North Korea. In response, Zhao Ziyang is reported to have said: Since we do not know very much about this incident, Communist China does not have any definite attitude toward it. He reportedly has not reiterated North Korea's false assertion that it was not involved in the Rangoon incident.

When Prime Minister Hawke asked Zhao Ziyang whether or not Communist China is willing to participate in 4-way talks, Zhao Ziyang reportedly said: "It is still better for Communist China to watch such talks from the sidelines."

#### CHON ORDERS PREPARATIONS AGAINST ATTACK BY NORTH

SK081101 Seoul YONHAP in English 1052 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Seoul, Feb 8 (YONHAP) -- President Chon Tu-hwan Wednesday said South Korea has not retaliated for any of the numerous North Korean provocations because of its sincere hope of preventing the recurrence of war on the Korean peninsula. The chief executive then directed the Defense Ministry to thoroughly prepare to punish the communists in the North if they threaten the survival and social stability of South Korea with continued provocative acts. He gave this and other directives after receiving a briefing from Defense Minister Yun Song-min on the ministry's major defense policy programs for this year.

In case of armed attack from the North, "what we have to worry about most" is that of commando units, Chon said, emphasizing the need to make thorough preparations to crush such attack in close cooperation with police, Homeland Reserve Forces and the Civil Defense Corps.

Pointing out that North Korea recently improved its chemical warfare capability significantly, Chon said the armed forces should be well informed of every military move of the enemy and develop new tactics to meet the northern military buildup.

Expressing grave concern about the situation in Lebanon, Chon directed the Defense Ministry to make a careful analysis of possible adverse effects of the Lebanese situation on the Korean peninsula in connection with North Korea's military moves.

Referring to the ongoing armed forces modernization program, Chon said the efficiency of the military organization and the operation of military personnel should be maximized to improve combat capability by cutting expense and consolidating organizations.



COURT REJECTS APPEAL in 9 OCT BOMBING CASE

BK090711 Hong Kong AFP in English 0658 GMT 9 Feb 84

[By Khin Muang Thwin]

[Excerpts] Rangoon, Feb (AFP) -- Burma's Supreme Court today rejected the appeal of two North Korean military officers against the death sentence for their involvement in the October 9 bomb blast here which killed 21 people, including four South Korean cabinet ministers.

North Korean Army Captain Kang Ming-chul and Major Chin Mo were found guilty and sentenced to death by Rangoon Division People's Court on December 9 for premeditated murder of 21 people by planting a bomb at Rangoon's Martyr's Memorial.

In upholding the decision of the earlier hearing, the Supreme Court today said it was clear from all available evidence and testimonies from witnesses that the two North Korean military officers had committed premeditated mass murder, and held that there were no grounds for clemency. The Supreme Court decreed that for such a crime the death penalty was mandatory and there was no other resource than to confirm the death sentence of the lower court and dismiss the appeal.

The defence counsel still have one more chance for final appeal for clemency to the State Council.

BRIEFS

LAO AMBASSADOR'S CREDENTIALS -- The Lao ambassador-designate to Burma, Mr Sali Khamsi, presented his credentials to President U San Yu today at 0930 at the president's office on Windermere. [Summary] [Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0630 GMT 2 Feb 84 BK]

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SESSION CONTINUES 8 FEBRUARY

BK081219 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] At 0700 on 8 February, the sixth session of the First National Assembly resumed its work in an extremely joyous and cordial atmosphere.

During this second day, all National Assembly members attentively listened to Council of Ministers report read by Comrade Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of planning, and National Assembly member from Kandal constituency. He stressed the economic and social situations in 1983 and in the past 5 years, which are marked by rapid allround growth, thus steadily consolidating the Kampuchean revolution. He also dealt with the targets of the economic and social tasks for years to come, the state plan for 1984, and the need to improve economic management and social administration in order to bring about more and greater successes in the cause of defending and rebuilding the Kampuchean fatherland.

Afterward, Comrade Chan Phin, member of the party Central Committee Secretariat and minister of finance, read a report on tax collection, the people's industrial-trade activities, and implementation of the departmental order on conditions governing patriotic contributions.

Amendments Proposed

BK081234 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1123 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK February 8 -- Chea Soth, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of planning, delivered here this morning a report to the current sixth session of the National Assembly on the implementation of the state plan for 1983, the 1984 state plan and the tasks of economic development in the years to come.

In the afternoon, Chan Si, chairman of the Council of Ministers, presented proposals for the amendment to some articles of the Constitution concerning the division of administrative units.

Chem Suguon, vice chairman of the Legislative Commission, Men Chhan, chairman of the Budgetary and Economic Commission, and Niu Beng, chairman of the Cultural and Social Commission of the National Assembly, reported on the work of their commissions.

Yesterday, Minister of Finance Chan Phin delivered a report on the expenditure and revenues of the state in the past four years, and the state budget for 1984. Minister of Agriculture Kong Samol reported on the development of solidarity production groups and their role in agricultural production over the past five years.

CHAN SI RECEIVES USSR'S MIKHAIL KAPITSA 8 FEB

BK090627 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0409 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] Phnom Penh, 9 Feb (SPK) -- Chairman of the Council of Ministers Chan Si received in Phnom Penh on Wednesday, 8 February, the visiting delegation of the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs led by Deputy Minister Mikhail Stepanovich Kapitsa.

During the talks at which Kong Korm, Kampuchean deputy minister of foreign affairs, and O.V. Bostorin, USSR ambassador to Kampuchea, were also present, Chan Si and Kapitsa highly appreciated the continued development of bilateral relations and pledged to each other to do their best to promote these relations, first of all in the field of economic development.

PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH VISITING KAZAKH DELEGATION

BK081026 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Comrade Pen Navouth, minister of education of the PRK, and Comrade Kalinin, economic adviser attached to the Soviet Embassy in Kampuchea, signed a protocol on the restoration and reconstruction of the Kampuchea-USSR Friendship Institute of Technology at the friendship institute on the afternoon of 7 February.

Attending the ceremony on the Kampuchean side were Comrade Hang Chuon, deputy minister of education, and Comrade Chan Min, assistant to the minister of education. On the Soviet side were, among others, Comrade (K.N. Naribayev), minister [title as heard] of higher and secondary specialized education of the Kazakh SSR, and Comrade (M.A. Fleksev), deputy dean of the Moscow electric power faculty.

This ceremony ended in an atmosphere of friendship, proletarian internationalist solidarity, and cooperation permeated with great joy and cordiality.

SALI VONGKHAMSAO ARRIVES IN PHNOM PENH FROM SRV

BK090816 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] After attending a conference of planning committee chairmen of Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea in Ho Chi Minh City of the SRV on 5-6 February 1984, on the morning of 7 February, the Lao State Planning Committee delegation headed by Committee Chairman Sali VongkhamSao, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, left Ho Chi Minh City for a friendly visit to the PRK at an invitation.

The delegation was welcomed upon its arrival at Pochentong airport by Chea Soth, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of planning, together with deputy ministers, chairman of the Phnom Penh municipal administration, many cadres concerned, and a crowd of Phnom Penh residents. Also on hand to greet the delegation at the airport were Khampon Boutsavat, charge d'affaires ad interim of the LPDR to the PRK, and a number of embassy staff members.

PHNOM PENH CARRIES ROUNDUP OF KPRAF OPERATIONS

BK070830 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Roundup of KPRAF activities]

[Excerpts] During the 9-month period January-October 1983, the battalion, in close collaboration with the Vietnamese volunteer army, launched various operations, found 3 enemy hideouts, killed 41 enemy soldiers, seized 30 weapons, and 2 15-watt telegraph sets.

During 1983, combatants of the 12th Battalion, Koh Kong Province, killed 38 enemy soldiers, wounded 7 others, and seized 135 weapons and a quantity of military material such as a telegraph set, a C-25 field radio, a compass, and two telescopes.

30 JANUARY-5 FEBRUARY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS

BK061140 [Editorial report] Kampuchean media monitored by Bangkok Bureau report the following agricultural developments during the reporting period 30 January-5 February:

Kompong Chhnang Province: Phnom Penh SPK in French at 0515 GMT on 30 January reported that during the first 3 weeks of January, peasants in the province harvested over 41,300 hectares, or 89 percent of the main season rice cultivated; over 600 hectares of dry season rice were also sowed and more than 150 hectares transplanted. The report added that over 2,200 hectares of subsidiary crops were also planted. In another report at 1300 GMT on 30 January, SPK in French said the provincial trade service had just bought 500 metric tons of paddy from the people. By the end of January, fishermen in the province caught 1,200 metric tons of fish, according to SPK in French at 0437 GMT on 1 February. On 4 February at 0410 GMT, SPK in French reported that by the end of January, peasants in Kompong Tralach District harvested more than 11,700 hectares of main season rice, or 96 percent of the 12,500 hectares cultivated, with an average yield of 1.3 metric tons per hectare. The report said that for the same period, out of the planned 2,500 hectares of dry season rice, 1,400 hectares were plowed and more than 280 hectares of subsidiary crops were planted. At 0419 GMT on 5 February, SPK in French reported that in Toek Phos District during the first 2 weeks of January, peasants harvested almost 6,00 hectares of rice, or 73 percent of the total cultivated surface, and sold more than 200 metric tons of paddy to the state.

Pre Veng Province: According to a report by SPK in French at 1300 GMT on 30 January, during the first 2 weeks of January, peasants in the province harvested a total of 180,000 hectares out of 210,000 hectares of rice planted during the rainy season and that so far 8,200 metric tons of paddy have been sold to the state. At 0430 GMT on 3 February, Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian reported that by the end of January, peasants in Kamchay Mea District harvested over 17,000 hectares of rainy season rice, or 78 percent of the area cultivated, with an average yield of 1 metric ton per hectare, and sold almost 2,000 metric tons of paddy to the state. The report added that at last rainy season, peasants in the district planted over 20,000 hectares of rice, or 20 percent above the plan. At 1120 GMT on 5 February, SPK in French reported that in Prey Veng District for the main 1983 rice season peasants planted more than 27,400 hectares of rice plus a large area of subsidiary and industrial crops, and sold almost 3,000 metric tons of paddy to the state.

Kandal Province: In a report at 1108 GMT on 31 January, SPK in English said solidarity fishing groups in the province caught more than 1,000 metric tons of fish during this current season. The report also said that during the last 10 days of January, peasants in the province sold some 500 metric tons of paddy to the state and added that in last year's main rice harvest, 5,200 metric tons of paddy, 4,200 metric tons of corn, and 460 metric tons of lotus seed were sold to the state.

Kompong Cham Province: At 0430 GMT on 1 February the radio reported that in Kang Meas District, so far 44,000 head of cattle have been vaccinated against various diseases. SPK in English at 1118 GMT on 4 February said that peasants in Memot District have completely harvested 820 hectares of rice with an average output of 3 metric tons per hectare, and added that peasants plan to sell 650 metric tons of paddy to the state this year. In another report at 0419 GMT on 5 February, SPK in French said that during the first 2 weeks of January the provincial trade service bought 6,500 metric tons of paddy, over 6,000 metric tons of bean, 1,200 metric tons of sesame, and many hundreds of metric tons of other agricultural products from the people.

Kompong Speu Province: SPK in French at 0437 GMT on 1 February reported that during the last 2 weeks of January, the trade service of Oudong District bought more than 500 metric tons of paddy from the people. The district trade service plans to buy 2,000 metric tons of paddy from the peasants this rice season, the report added.



At 0430 GMT on 3 February the radio reported that in Oudong District, by the end of January peasants harvested 12,000 hectares of rice or 80 percent of the cultivated surface, with an average yield of 1.5 metric tons per hectare. During the last rainy season, the IR-36 rice strain gave an average yield of between 5 and 7 metric tons per hectare, the report added.

Takeo Province: The radio at 0430 GMT on 2 February reported that in Prey Kabbas District, peasants recently harvested over 17,000 hectares of rice with an average yield of 1.5 metric tons per hectare. In another report broadcast at 1100 GMT on 2 February, the radio said by mid-January, peasants in Kirivong District harvested over 5,000 hectares of rice with an average yield of 1.5 metric tons per hectare, and added that so far more than 300 metric tons of paddy have been sold to the state, and 900 hectares of dry season rice planted. On 3 February at 0430 GMT, the radio reported that by the end of January, peasants in Tram Kak District harvested over 15,300 hectares of various types of rice and started planting dry season rice on a planned 1,000 hectares. The same report added that over 800 hectares of subsidiary crops were also planted. At 0430 GMT on 5 February, in another report, the radio said by mid-January peasants in Bati District harvested over 15,000 hectares of various types of rice with an average yield of 1.5 metric tons per hectare. The same report added that over 300 hectares of dry season rice, out of the planned 2,000 hectares, have been sowed and transplanted.

Kampot Province: In a report broadcast at 1100 GMT on 2 February, the radio said by the end of December 1983, peasants in Kompong Trach District planted 18,000 hectares of rice and harvested 13,000 hectares.

Mondolkiri Province: At 1300 GMT on 3 February, the radio reported that during the last rainy season nearly 4,600 hectares of rice were planted and that last year over 1,000 metric tons of paddy were sold to the state.

Kompong Thom Province: In a report broadcast at 0430 GMT on 5 February, the radio said that in 1 month [not further specified] peasants in the province sold almost 15,000 metric tons of paddy to the state, or 60 percent of the plan.

#### VODK ON 'RIGHT TO STRUGGLE' AGAINST VIETNAMESE

BK080808 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Station commentary: "Like Other Peoples in the World, the Kampuchean People Have the Right to Struggle and Fight the Enemy Aggressors in Defense of Their National Independence, National Sovereignty, and Territorial Integrity"]

[Text] All peoples of all countries throughout the world, whether small, big, rich, or poor, have the right to struggle and fight against enemy aggressors in the defense of their national sovereignty, national independence, territorial integrity, and for their own survival. The right to struggle and fight enemy aggressors in the cause of national liberation, national defense, and freedom is a sacred right generally recognized by the whole world and mankind. This right is clearly mentioned in international law and the UN Charter.

Our Kampuchean people, an independent people with our own national culture and tradition for several thousand years, have the same right as other peoples in the world in waging armed struggle with all our means against enemy aggressors in the defense of our nation and the safeguard of our independence, honor, and freedom. In fact, the Kampuchean nation and race have survived up to now thanks to the Kampuchean people who have vigorously struggled against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors, dared to sacrifice their flesh and blood, and overcame all obstacles and difficulties since the Vietnamese invaded Kampuchea.

The Vietnamese enemy aggressors have been bogged down on the Kampuchean battlefield. They cannot swallow Kampuchea in accordance with their Indochina Federation strategy because the Kampuchean people have waged a tough struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors on the battlefield. Furthermore, the Kampuchean people's struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors on the Kampuchean battlefield has contributed to the defense of security, stability, and peace in Southeast Asia and, through this struggle, has also contributed to the defense of peace throughout the world.

If the Kampuchean people did not struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors, what would be the situation in Kampuchea? Would the Vietnamese enemy aggressors leave the Kampuchean people alone? Would the Vietnamese enemy aggressors leave Southeast Asia alone?

It is obvious that if the Kampuchean people and the National Army and guerrillas of Democratic Kampuchea had not struggled against the Le Duan Vietnamese enemy aggressors from the start, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors would have swallowed the whole of Kampuchea. After swallowing Kampuchea, the Vietnamese, who are militarily, politically, and diplomatically stronger than before, would advance southward. The Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors, who dared to send hundreds of thousands of their soldiers to flagrantly and barbarously attack and occupy Kampuchea, are not afraid of anyone. They are not scared of international law, the UN Charter, or international opinion. They dare to trample upon the UN General Assembly resolutions. The Vietnamese do not listen to any supplications; they know only the use of force. They dare use their forces to achieve their maneuvers and goals.

Therefore, it is the right of the Kampuchean people and the National Army and guerrillas of Democratic Kampuchea to wage a struggle against the Le Duan Vietnamese enemy aggressors. Our Democratic Kampuchean combatants attacked the Vietnamese enemy aggressors at their strategic bases such as Siem Reap, Kompong Thom, and Pursat towns. It is also a sacred duty of the Kampuchean people and the National Army and guerrillas of Democratic Kampuchea to fight the enemy aggressors for national liberation, defense of the nation, and for their own survival. The Kampuchean people's struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors is just; therefore, the world has assisted and supported it each passing day. As aggressors, the Le Duan Vietnamese enemy aggressors have no right to retaliate against the Kampuchean people. The aggressors cannot be put on the same plane with the victims of the aggression. The Vietnamese must unconditionally withdraw all their aggressor troops from Kampuchea in accordance with the past five UN General Assembly resolutions.

If the Vietnamese do not withdraw all their aggressor troops from Kampuchea in conformity with these UN General Assembly resolutions, the Kampuchean people and the National Army and guerrillas of Democratic Kampuchea will continue their struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors until they are all driven from Kampuchean territory. This is the right and sacred national duty of the Kampuchean people. All peace-, justice-, and independence-loving peoples and countries in the world have the duty to continue to assist and support the Kampuchean people and the National Army and guerrillas of Democratic Kampuchea in their struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and to pressure the Le Duan Vietnamese enemy aggressors with all their means until they withdraw all of their aggressor troops from Kampuchea in accordance with the UN General Assembly resolutions in order to restore peace in Kampuchea and enable the Kampuchean people to exercise their right to self-determination without any external interference as enjoyed by all peoples throughout the world.

VONADK REPORTS 3 VIETNAMESE POSITIONS DESTROYED

BK050201 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian  
2300 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] On 31 January, our national army attacked the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and destroyed three of their positions -- a battalion position, a company position, and a platoon position -- along the railroad track in Mounng battlefield from Ta Phde to Reang Kesei. These are Chhay Balang, Ta Phde hill, and Reang Kesei positions. As a result:

1. We killed 81 enemy soldiers and wounded 102 others.
2. We destroyed 162 military buildings; 184 trenches; an assortment of 100 weapons including 7 B-40's, 8 B-41's, 4 RPD's, 3 machineguns, 10 AR-15's, and 66 AK's; 74 hammocks; 600 sacks of rice; 2 ammunition depots; 300 DK-75 shells; 200 sets of military clothing; a military warehouse; 4 (?barrels) of petrol and diesel fuel; a C-25 field radio; and a battalion command post.
3. We seized 4 AR-15's, 16 AK's, 2 M-79's, a B-40 rocket launcher, 3 CK's, a machinegun, a DK-75 gun, 11 cases of AK ammunition, 36 B-40 rockets, 62 B-41 rockets, 32 M-79 rounds, 170 rounds of machinegun ammunition, 126 hand grenades, 162 rucksacks, 60 belts, 167 helmets and berets, 270 sets of clothing, 40 AK ammunition loaders, 2 radio sets, 72 canteens, 1,000 rounds of AR-15 ammunition, 34 pieces of cloth, 42 cooking pots, a compass, 3,200 Vietnamese dong, 42 hammocks, and a number of documents.
4. We liberated 18 villages: Phnum Thippadei, Tuol Thmei, Kantuot, Chong Phnum, Chik, Chhay Balang, Kouk Poun, Veal Poan Talei, Boeng Khtum, Boeng Russei Chuo, Svay Cheat, Vat Kandal, (?Tuol Khmuol), Reang Kesei, Kanseng, Krom Anamai, Prei Phsay, and Prei Totoeng;
5. We cut a total of 7 km of railroad track and drainage pipes. The railway lines between Ta Phde and Svay Cheat was completely cut.

KPNLF SAYS 800 SOLDIERS DEFECT WITH WEAPONS

BK061308 Hong Kong AFP in English 1247 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Bangkok, Feb 6 (AFP) -- Eight hundred Cambodian soldiers serving the Phnom Penh government have turned on their Vietnamese comrades-in-arms and driven a large number out of a base in western Cambodia, resistance sources here said.

The Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) said in a press release received here today that the Cambodians deserted January 18 from the 196th Division of the Heng Samrin government's 2nd Regiment based in Traeung, Battambang Province. They disappeared in full combat gear and took with them four 82mm mortars, according to the release.

It said the deserters returned under cover of darkness two nights later and attacked Traeung's 300 Vietnamese defenders. The release said the raid was to seize food for "a long march" to join KPNLF forces some distance away.

The Vietnamese were forced to abandon Traeung a day later and moved northeast to Rong village, according to the KPNLF, which claimed that the Vietnamese moved up 2,000 fresh troops from Kompong Chhnang, north of Phnom Penh, to Battambang city on the same day as the attack on Traeung.

There was no immediate independent confirmation of the KPNLF's unusually detailed report, which included military grid coordinates of Traeung and Rong.

LEADERS ATTEND SANAN SOUTTHICHAK CREMATION RITE

BK080513 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Amid an atmosphere of great sorrow and profound mourning, on the afternoon of 7 February 1984, the committee responsible for the cremation held a cremation ceremony at the That Louang Pagoda grounds in Vientiane capital for the late Comrade Sanan Soutthichak, member of the LPRP Central Committee, who passed away of cirrhosis of the liver at the central hospital in Vientiane at 2115 on 4 February.

Attending the cremation ceremony were Comrade Souphanouvong, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, president of the LPDR, and chairman of the SPC and the Lao Front for National Construction [LFNC] Central Committee; Comrade Phoumi Vongvichit, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Comrade Phoun Sipaseut, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs; Comrade Sisomphon Lovansai, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the SPC; Comrade Khamsouk Keola, vice chairman and secretary general of the SPC and vice chairman of the LFNC Central Committee; comrade members of the Secretariat of the party Central Committee; members and alternate members of the party Central Committee; members of the SPC; ministers and deputy ministers; family members and relatives of the late Comrade Sanan Soutthichak; representatives of ministries, departments, units, and various mass organizations; and a large crowd of Vientiane residents.

The procession with the hearse bearing the body of Comrade Sanan arrived at the crematorium at the That Louang Pagoda grounds from the club of the office of the Council of Ministers at 1450. The official cremation ceremony then began with a eulogy to pay final homage to Comrade Sanan Soutthichak read by General Sisavat Keobounphan, secretary of the party Central Committee, minister of interior, chief of the LPA General Staff, and chairman of the cremation committee. Senior Buddhist bonzes then performed a religious rite while comrade party and state leaders and representatives of various branches took turns in laying joss sticks and candles to express mourning and sorrow over the passing away of Comrade Sanan Soutthichak, a senior revolutionary who has left behind in our hearts his good reputation and fine revolutionary cause which will remain forever in the life of the nation and the revolutionary movement of the Lao people of various tribes.

PASASON URGES FULFILLMENT OF 1984 FOOD PLAN

BK070940 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 6 Feb 84

[6 February PASASON editorial: "Persistently Struggle To Increase This Year's Food Production to 1.4 Million Metric Tons"]

[Text] In the past year of 1983, despite the extraordinary change in climatic conditions which to a certain degree affected agricultural production in our country, our farmers, under the beacon of the third party congress' guidelines and with high determination and persistent efforts, have successfully overcome difficulties caused by the change of the climate and have scored considerable achievements in the annual harvesting season when compared with those scored in 1982. The intensive cultivation movement has also been considerably developed while the movement to switch to agricultural cooperatives has been restored and consolidated. This is a good situation for agricultural production in our country. It is also regarded as a success in the implementation of the resolution of the third party congress and the First 5-Year State Plan.



However, this is merely an initial success. It has not yet met the imperative food requirements for our cadres, soldiers, and people of various tribes. This is why the fifth plenum of the third session of the party Central Committee, which was held in early January, set forth the following detailed plans and targets for agricultural production in our country: Strive to achieve glorious success in carrying out seasonal and dry season rice production in 1984, increase the acreage of dry season ricefields to as many as 10,000 to 12,000 hectares and the acreage of seasonal ricefields from 400,000 to 450,000 hectares, limit the practice of slash-and-burn cultivation, guarantee a level of productivity whereby at least 3 tons of rice are produced from each hectare of ricefield and an average of 1.1 tons of other crops are produced from each hectare of plantation at an average, and increase the total amount of food production to as much as 1.3-1.4 million metric tons, including 1.2-1.3 million metric tons of rice.

These targets are the duty and responsibility to be fulfilled by the entire nation, in particular by those cadres and state employees who work in the agricultural field and all farmers of various tribes throughout the country. Everyone must be mobilized to contribute to production with all their energies and abilities. First and foremost, farmers and agricultural cooperative members must be persuaded and motivated to begin dry season rice farming on all available acreage. The farmers must be supplied with sufficient rice seeds, fertilizer, insecticide, spare parts, and other necessary items so that they can make full use of water pump stations and water resources in support of dry season rice farming. This will enable our farmers to widely expand the dry season rice farming movement and to guarantee a bumper harvest of rice crop.

Along with this, arrangements should be made in each locality, region, province, village, canton, and agricultural cooperative to review past achievements and good or weak points and to carefully lay out production plans for the seasonal rice farming in 1984. Redivision of labor and competition must be organized in each family, production unit, and cooperative. On this basis, the people must be mobilized to make technical preparations for the seasonal rice farming. For example, they must be encouraged to widely build irrigation canals and reservoirs. Regarding this, they must basically build small irrigation canals and reservoirs. This is because small irrigation canals and reservoirs only need a small amount of capital, demand little time, and can be built with the energies and abilities of the people themselves. At the same time, attention must be paid to repairing old irrigation canals and advising the people to reduce the practice of slash-and-burn cultivation in favor of instituting a crop rotation system or terrace rice plantating. Concentration must be made on widely and thoroughly expanding the intensive cultivation movement in a simple way in order to increase production efficiency and achievements.

The Agriculture, Irrigation, and Agricultural Cooperatives Ministry should firmly coordinate with concerned branches in mapping out plans to conduct seasonal rice farming for 1984 in accordance with their respective responsibilities. They must organize a concrete division of labor, close cooperation, and the distribution of farm tools, fertilizer, insecticide, spare parts for various types of agricultural machinery, fuel, seeds, veterinary medicine, and other goods which serve the daily life and labor of various localities before the production season comes, in particular for those provinces and cities which are centers of rice farming. The party committees and administrations at all levels as well as agricultural authorities in all localities should also jointly map out plans to encourage the people to take part in dry season rice farming, repair or build irrigation projects in a preparation for the seasonal rice farming, and push forward the production of other crops. Only by positively making efforts to urgently fulfill this task and by jointly organizing concrete plans among the agricultural authorities at the provincial, district, and local levels and among various branches concerned, can the food production target for 1984 as adopted by our party be successfully fulfilled.

FOREIGN MINISTRY REPORT VIEWS KAMPUCHEA SITUATION

BK081006 Bangkok SIAM Rat in Thai 7 Feb 84 pp 1, 12

[Excerpt] SIAM RAT has received a report from the Foreign Ministry saying that the general situation along the Thai-Kampuchean border is still normal and calm. There is no sign of any possible violence or border intrusion. However, the fighting continues inside Kampuchea, and shells have occasionally landed on Thai territory. The forces of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea are reportedly getting stronger as it can be seen that the Khmer Rouge has taken the initiative in attacking Vietnamese-Heng Samrin military bases in Kampuchea. "The official report revealed that Vietnam has planned attacks and suppression drives against the resistance strongholds by the end of this month. The Vietnamese side has reinforced its bases in many areas with fresh troops and heavy weapons. The Vietnamese troops will this time change their tactics by attacking the resistance strongholds one by one. They might engage in guerrilla warfare to avoid heavy casualties and political setbacks they suffered from their offensive against refugee encampments last year."

The report also revealed that Vietnam is now suffering heavy economic problems because it has had to spend a lot of money to keep its 180,000 soldiers inside Kampuchea to back the Heng Samrin puppet government.

THAI GENERAL ON SRV GAS ATTACK NEAR BORDER

BK090949 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 9 Feb 84 pp 1, 32

[Text] Vietnamese troops unleashed a fierce gas attack on a camp belonging to the Son Sann faction of Democratic Kampuchea yesterday, commander of the Second Region Army, Lt-Gen Phak Minakanit said this morning. The barrage of gas mortar shells was a prelude to an attack by a regimental strength infantry force on the camp at O Bok Pass about one kilometre from the Thai border, Gen Phak said.

He said that prior to the two-and-a-half hour attack, Vietnamese gunners opened up a barrage with 105 artillery and 82mm mortar shells. Gen Phak said that the mortar shells were gas shells which affected 18 Khmer resistance fighters. The affected men had difficulties in breathing, felt nauseous and felt faint, he said.

The Vietnamese hit the camp at O Bok Pass at about 11.30 a.m. and maintained pressure until about 2 p.m. Four shells landed on Thai territory but no one was hurt. Two thousand Khmer refugees have already fled the fighting into Thailand, he said, adding that they would be allowed to remain until the fighting has died down. International relief organisation are taking care of the fugitives, he said.

Another clash between Vietnamese troops and Khmer resistance was reported at 6 a.m. yesterday inside Kampuchea at Chong Bok near to the spot where Thai, Khmer and Lao territories meet. Reports said there was a heavy bombardment by artillery and mortar, but few other details were available. Gen Phak said that Thai forces at the border were ready to repulse any possible intrusion by either side.

COLUMNIST QUESTIONS SUPPORT FOR SIHANOUK

BK081100 Bangkok LAK THAI in Thai 2 Feb 84 p 50

["Speaking Thai" Column by Rattana Yawapraphat]

[Text] There is nothing new in the foreign policy of the Prem II government, especially concerning Kampuchea. It always follows the dictate of the United States and China on supporting Prince Sihanouk return to the position of power he held prior to his overthrow by General Lon Nol.

Thailand's support for Sihanouk was under cover in the beginning to prevent attacks from Vietnam, but later, when the United States and China could no longer conceal it, Thailand too went into the open concerning its assistance for Sihanouk. During his latest visit to Thailand, Sihanouk was given the Laem Thaen resort home of former Prime Minister Field Marshal Sarit Thanarat as an official residence, and he held meetings openly there. Prime Minister Prem also granted an audience to him at Government House.

Some of us might wonder why Thailand accorded such a warm and cordial welcome to Sihanouk. During the days he was in power in Kampuchea, Sihanouk sent his soliders -- with the support from both China and France -- to Preah Vihear Temple, where they committed acts of provocation that resulted in clashes between the Kampuchean and Thai sides. Sihanouk then lodged a complaint at the World Court, claiming that the temple belonged to Kampuchea. His trick was no different than his ancestors' when the latter forced Thailand to give up its territories after a show of strength by the French during the reigns of King Rama IV and King Rama V. They all cited ancient history to back their claims. As one may recall, Field Marshal Sarit pledged to the Thai people that he would never let Kampuchea take away Preah Vihear Temple from Thailand no matter what might happen. However, Sarit later fell into Sihanouk's trap and agreed to be the defendant at the World Court. He had confidence in the Thai lawyer named to defend the Thai cause at the court, M.R. Seni Pramot, who was considered one of the most distinguished experts on international law. He was also a Thai prime minister after World War II with U.S. backing. However, it turned out that Thailand lost its case at the World Court and had to relinquish Preah Vihear Temple to Sihanouk.

Although many are surprised, those who are familiar with Thailand's politics from the government of Field Marshal Phibunsongkhram onward should not be surprised at all at Thailand's attitude. Thailand has adopted its attitude not exactly to please Sihanouk, but to please the United States and China, especially the United States.

Sihanouk was ousted from power in Kampuchea because of his close alliance with China. At that time, China and the United States were big enemies. The United States deemed it necessary to oust him and replace him with Gen Lon Nol. When Lon Nol was in power, Thailand maintained excellent relations with Kampuchea. Lon Nol blindly followed the dictate of the United States and could not maintain stability for his country, which was badly plagued by official corruption. Kampuchea finally fell, as did South Vietnam, to the communist power in accordance with the domino theory. Pol Pot and Khieu Samphan emerged as the Khmer Rouge leaders, and Thailand again adopted a policy antagonistic to Kampuchea. Pol Pot and Khieu Samphan were later ousted and replaced by the Vietnamese-backed Heng Samrin regime. Following the reconciliation between the United States, once called "American dogs" by China, and China, which could swallow its own words out of the desire for a common interest in Indochina as well as all of Southeast Asia, Thailand again shifted its stand on the issue.

In exchange for Thailand's all-out support for Sihanouk, China agreed to suspend all aid to the armed elements of the Communist Party of Thailand, a big gift for the Thai Government. As a result, students and intellectuals who fled to the jungle after the 6 October 1976 incident have gradually returned after amnesty granted by the government. This was somewhat mistakenly interpreted as victory for Government Policy 66/2523.

From all I have summed up, I would like to remind my government that, although it is unavoidable for us to back Sihanouk's return to power in Kampuchea, as we are a slave under the yoke of the United States, we must be careful not to let history repeat itself. If history does repeat itself, the United States again would not help us as in the case of Preah Vihear Temple. What is more important, we must realize that it would mean the end of our nation. Should we accept becoming a slave of Kampuchea under Sihanouk? Will the Thai people, who are no longer ignorant, allow their government to go on with this?

PRASONG REPLIES TO RECENT UNHCR 'ALLEGATIONS'

BK090233 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 Feb 84 p 5

["Report" issued by Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, Secretary General of the National Security Council, at 8 February Bangkok press conference in response to recent claims by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees]

[Text] With reference to the recent allegations made by the UNHCR concerning the so-called "boat people" who had landed on Thai shore in December of 1983 and January 1984, the secretary-general of the NSC has instituted a fact-finding mission comprising senior government officials from the ministries of the Interior and Foreign Affairs and the Police Department and visited the sites of the alleged incidents in Trat and Narathiwat provinces on February 2 and 3, 1984.

The mission found the allegations to be at great variance with the facts. The result of the finding reveals the following facts:

1. With reference to the Tak Bai incident, the UNHCR had claimed that as a result of actions by Thai officials on January 11, 1984, 23 "boat people" had drowned.

The facts are: On 4 January 1984, 72 persons illegally entered Thai territorial waters by boat and made a landing at Che He Village, Tak Bai District, Narathiwat Province. The vessel used by these persons had been badly damaged. These illegal entrants were subsequently found by the local Thai authorities and brought to (Thung Kham) Temple for routine questioning. These persons indicated to the Thai authorities that they were Vietnamese nationals and that they had wished to proceed by boat to a third country. While under custody the Thai authorities provided them with shelter, food and medical treatment as well as furnished two wooden vessels in order that they could continue their journey according to the wishes they had expressed. As a further assistance, a marine police launch together with another hired boat escorted the two vessels carrying these Vietnamese nationals and a supply of food and water from Sungai Kolok estuary, Tak Bai District, safely out of the Thai territorial waters, whereupon, these Vietnamese persons were left to proceed on their own.

Later on the same day, another group of 15 Vietnamese nationals landed at Sungai-Kolok estuary. They were taken into safe custody by the local Thai authorities and, under questioning they revealed that their vessels had capsized outside the limits of Thai territorial waters and that the fate of some of their companions was unknown. Since these illegal entrants also requested to proceed to a third country, they were provided with a vessel and, as with the preceding case, were safely escorted out of the Thai territorial waters by a hired fishing boat.



2. With reference to the second alleged incident at Kuud Island, Trat Province, the UNHCR claimed that a boat carrying 29 persons had been towed out to sea by a Thai naval vessel and, during the ensuing journey, two girls died for lack of food and fresh water. Subsequently on December 15, 1983 the same boat was attacked by pirates, and six girls were abducted. The remaining persons then landed ashore at Khanom District, Nakhon Si Thammarat Province on 19 December.

The facts are as follows: On 19 December 1983, 21 Kampucheans had illegally entered Thai territory by boat at Khanom District, Nakhon Si Thammarat Province. In accordance with established procedure, they were taken into safe custody and interviewed by officers of the Royal Thai Navy's Operations Unit. During the course of the interview these illegal entrants told the officers that they had escaped from Kompong Som City on 2 December 1983, aboard a hired vessel for which they had paid 18.75 grammes of gold chains per person. Shortly after their departure and while still in Kampuchean waters, they were attacked by pirates, and were forced to exchange their own vessel for a dilapidated one belonging to the pirates. In addition it was also revealed by these Kampucheans that neither the pirates nor the vessels were Thai. During their ensuing journey on the high seas, two small children suffered from severe diarrhoea and subsequently died. Eventually, on 19 December 1983 the remaining illegal entrants, numbering 21 persons, were safely towed to shore by an unidentified Thai fishing vessel at Khanom District, Nakhon Si Thammarat Province, where they and their vessel were taken into safe custody of the said Thai navy unit.

3. With reference to a UNHCR report that a Thai fishing vessel, registration number 0882, had on many occasions robbed refugee vessels, the Royal Thai Navy has conducted an investigation and has concluded that all these alleged incidents as reported by the UNHCR had occurred outside of Thai territorial waters. It was also revealed that there were two vessels with identical registration number of 0882. One was registered in Songkhla; the other, in Samut Prakan Province. These vessels together with their crews were brought before the refugees for identification. The refugees were not able to arrive at a positive determination that these were the vessels or the crew in question.

4. It is clearly evident that the allegations are not supported by the facts. The government and the people of Thailand are profoundly disappointed and deeply regret the public disclosure of the unsubstantiated allegations, particularly in view of the good cooperation Thailand has always extended to the UNHCR and other relevant international organisations in helping Indochinese refugees in accordance with humanitarian principles. Even though Thailand is a small country with limited resources and numerous problems of its own, Thailand has, and will continue to adhere strictly to humanitarian principles and will continue to provide humanitarian aid to Indochinese refugees. It is, furthermore a fact that Thailand has so far accepted the highest number of Indochinese refugees, in comparison with other countries in the region. For these reasons Thailand hopes that the UNHCR and friendly nations will continue to give due consideration to this fact, and to cooperate with Thailand in finding a durable and lasting solution to the refugee problem based on mutual understanding, sympathy and trust in order that this problem which is of international concern could be resolved and our common objective reached.

5. Since 1975, Thailand has provided humanitarian aid to about 600,000 Indochinese people. Thailand furthermore, carries the burden of providing temporary shelter for these refugees while they await resettlement in third countries.

Although third countries have so far assisted in the resettlement of many of these refugees, there remains a large number of refugees and displaced persons both in Thailand and along the border. At present, there is a total of 132,961 refugees in the various holding centres in Thailand. Furthermore, there are approximately 220,000 Kampucheans presently congregating along the Thai-Kampuchean border, ready at the slightest hint of a recurrence of violence, to surge into Thai territory seeking safety. According to Thai immigration laws, illegal entrants will be arrested and dealt with in accordance with Thai legal processes. This implies that illegal entrants whether of Laotian, Kampuchean or Vietnamese origin, must be arrested and deported from Thailand immediately. However, because of the special prevailing circumstances, the authorities have been lenient and have provided temporary shelter, in compliance with humanitarian principles.

As for Vietnamese boat people, Thailand has since 1975 to the present day received approximately 80,000. Through the facilities provided by Thailand, these people continue to enjoy temporary shelter while they await resettlement in third countries. Furthermore, apart from aid provided to refugees on land, aid is also provided to those at sea, including indirect aid through anti-piracy operations. These operations are conducted by units of the Royal Thai Navy, the Marine Police and the Harbour Department.

While the Thai authorities involved in the task of prevention and suppression of piracy continue to work as effectively as they can, problems persist, owing to the fact that control over a vast body of water in the Gulf of Thailand, is exercised by riparian countries. For this reason, Thailand has to rely on these nations accepting equal responsibility in tackling these problems involving the boat people, particularly at their root-causes. Thailand calls on Vietnam to lessen the burden it has imposed on other countries by providing its people with more opportunity to live a better life in their own country so that they will not risk their lives on the high seas in search for a better place to live elsewhere as is the situation at present.

#### ALERT FOLLOWS REPORTED LAO TROOP MOVEMENTS

BK060150 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Feb 84 p 5

[Text] Uttaradit -- Thai troops, provincial and border patrol policemen have been put on alert following reports that Laos may launch an attack on rebel forces soon. A source said the offensive could occur inside Laos near the Thai border opposite Nam Pat District, where trenches have been dug and bunkers built.

The expected offensive stemmed from reports of unusual troop and supply movements to a Laotian Government base at Gnai Muang Thoung village, the source said. The source quoted the reports as saying that young Laotians from several villages were also conscripted into the army and given weapons training late last month.

#### POLICE SEIZE 25 LAO REFUGEES IN NONG KHAI

BK090145 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 9 Feb 84 p 3

[Text] Nong Khai -- Twenty-five Laotians, led by an army captain, fled across the Mekong River -- the natural borderline between Thailand and Laos -- into this north-eastern province yesterday, police said. Police said patrol policemen at Tha Sadet (a wharf on the Mekong River) spotted the group.

The group included three members who identified themselves as army officers in Pathet Lao army. They were identified as Capt Khamtan Suli-gnasak, 55, a parachutist of the Fifth Army Region, Sub-Lt Phon Cheunchom, 46, chief-of-staff for logistic education, and Sub-Lt Bounmi Bounsaneu, 46, of Pathet Lao army division. They were quoted by Thai authorities as saying that they decided to seek refuge in Thailand because they could not tolerate hardship in their home country.

COMPARISON OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON PLANNING CONFERENCE

Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese at 0400 GMT on 7 February carries an 8-minute version of the joint communique of the first Indochinese planning conference, which has been compared with the Hanoi VNA English version published in the 7 February DAILY REPORT, page K 2, revealing the following variations:

Paragraph two, line seven read; ...spirit and mutual trust. They informed one... (changing "understanding" to "trust")

Paragraph four, the last line should read: ...living conditions in each country. (adding phrase)

Page K2, paragraph one, line two should read: material and technical base heavily damaged by...(providing indistinct word)

Same paragraph, line five should read: ...will help them increase their strong... (deleting phrase "overcome their viewpoint and")

Same page, paragraph three from end of first line should read: ...and a gradual realization of the division of labor and economic alliance...(rephrasing from Vietnamese)

Page K 2, penultimate paragraph, line two should read: ...to review achievements in economic, cultural, scientific and technological cooperation and discuss orientations... (adding phrase)

Page K 3, the first paragraph should be numbered "4." and the first line of the paragraph should read: ...science and technological planning between the three... (adding word "planning")

Same page, second paragraph, line one should begin: Having undergone three ruthless wars over the past 30 years, the Indochinese peoples...(rephrasing). Same page, after the final paragraph, the following paragraphs should be added:

The joint communique was written in three languages -- Vietnamese, Lao and Khmer -- and the three versions are equally valid.

Ho Chi Minh City, 6 February 1984

Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the SRV State Planning Commission

Sali Vongkhamso, chairman of the LPDR State Commission for Planning

Chea Soth, PRK Minister of Planning

BRIEFS

5TH-MONTH SPRING RICE -- Northern provinces have planted more than 850,000 hectares of the 5th-month spring rice or 78,000 hectares more than the previous crop. The recent prolonged cold spell has damaged almost 10,000 hectares of rice seedlings in Thanh Hoa, Ha Nam Ninh, Nghe Tinh, and Ha Son Binh Provinces, and Hanoi Municipality. Localities are striving to sow more rice seedlings to fulfill their planned 5th-month spring rice areas. [Summary] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 6 Feb 84 BK]

## AUSTRALIA

MELBOURNE ON HAWKE'S COMMENTS IN TALKS WITH ZHAO

BK081050 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Australia's prime minister, Mr Hawke, has said in Beijing that China could do much to ensure that the question of arms control and disarmament maintained its importance in international discussions. Mr Hawke put the view during 3 hours of talks with the Chinese premier, Mr Zhao Ziyang. He also appealed to China not to resume nuclear testing, and said he would like to see all the five nuclear powers of the world sign the Nonproliferation Treaty which China does not recognize.

A radio Australia correspondent, (Barry Cassidy), who is traveling with Mr Hawke, said China gave no immediate response to the appeal on nuclear testing, and Premier Zhao argued that because the United States and the Soviet Union held 95 percent of the world's nuclear weapons the emphasis for nuclear controls should be on those two countries.

Referring to bilateral issues, Mr Hawke said the outstanding feature of Australia's relations with China in the past decade had been that China was no longer a divisive issue for Australians. He said that in 10 years China had become a major partner in economic and trading matters and a country with which politically Australia shared a number of common basic perceptions.

China is Mr Hawke's fourth stop on a 6-nation tour of Asia.

NEW ZEALANDU.S. WARSHIPS MAY SPARK 'BIGGEST PROTESTS YET'

BK080802 Hong Kong AFP in English 0753 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Wellington, New Zealand, Feb 8 (AFP) -- New Zealand anti-nuclear groups today promised the "biggest protests yet" against three U.S. warships due to visit the country next month. Defence Minister David Thomson confirmed that two U.S. frigates and a nuclear powered submarine would take part in annual naval exercises under the Australian, New Zealand and U.S. (ANZUS) defence pact off the New Zealand coast during March.

He said "the small U.S. flotilla" would no doubt "spark a deluge of letters of protest on practically every aspect of the nuclear issue," but could not say whether any of the ships carried nuclear weapons. The defence minister said the government "recognizes that to require an answer to the nuclear arms question will be to require the U.S. Navy to either give away important operational data or to cease visiting New Zealand." "Neither is acceptable," said Mr Thomson.

The U.S. Embassy in Wellington told AFP the names of the vessels and the ports they may visit were not yet available.

Meanwhile Campaign Against Nuclear Warships (CAMWAR) spokesman Nicky Hager said that every U.S. warship which had visited New Zealand in the past had carried nuclear arms. "The minister is right. There will be protests if these vessels are nuclear armed. They will be the biggest anti-nuclear protests yet seen in this country," he said, but stressed the protests would not be anti-American.

The visit of the British anti-aircraft carrier Invincible to New Zealand last year aroused some strong anti-nuclear weapons feeling.



MOKHTAR COMMENTS ON INDOCHINESE COMMUNIQUE

BK081308 Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja says that the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, has no desire to put the Pol Pot regime in Phnom Penh again. However, the problem of the Pol Pot regime should be solved by the Kampuchean people themselves, according to the minister after a meeting with the parliament in Jakarta yesterday.

Minister Mokhtar said that it was a fact the Pol Pot with his Khmer Rouge was part of the Democratic Kampuchean coalition government led by Prince Sihanouk and was supported by the ASEAN, but outsiders (?must not) worry about Pol Pot, because it was a problem of the Kampuchean people and must be solved by themselves. What is important, according to the minister, is how to find a political solution to the whole Kampuchean problem.

ASEAN so far has not given any reply to the Indochinese foreign ministers communique released some time ago, which proposed some alternatives for the solution of the Kampuchean problem. Minister Mokhtar said there was nothing new in the Indochinese communique, but ASEAN will study the proposal so as not to appear negative in the matter.

The Indochinese countries wanted to have a dialogue with ASEAN on all problems in the Southeast Asia, while according to the ASEAN, what must be solved first was the Kampuchean issue.

Touching on the relations between ASEAN and Australia, Minister Mokhtar, who is concurrently chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee, said that the relations were good and in principle, and there is no difference between the two sides concerning the Kampuchean issue.

AGREEMENT WITH SAUDI ARABIA SIGNED IN JIDDA

BK081441 Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] An agreement between Indonesia and Saudi Arabia covering cooperation in the field of economy, trade, and the more use of Indonesian workers at the Saudi Arabian projects was signed in Jidda. The agreement was signed by the Indonesian delegation, Atmono Suryo, and the Saudi Arabian deputy foreign minister, "Ali 'Abdallah 'Ali ar-Riba.

Atmono Suryo, the firector general of foreign economic relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said that up to now there are 47,000 Indonesians working in various projects in Saudi Arabia. In a meeting with Saudi Arabian officials in Jidda, Atmono Suryo also discussed problems relating to agriculture, forestry, technology, and capital investment in Indonesia. Relations between the two country's chambers of commerce and industry, trade fairs, and the possibility of sending the country's mission to observe Pt. Nurtanio, the aviation industry in Bandung, West Java, also came up during their discussions. Indonesia's exports to Saudi Arabia until October 1983 reached \$70 million.

MALAYSIARULERS ELECT SULTAN OF JOHOR AS 8TH KING

BK090732 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] His royal highness the sultan of Johor, Sultan Iskandar Al-Haj, has been elected as the eighth king. His royal highness the sultan of Perak, Paduka Sri Sultan Azlan Muhibuddin Syah is the deputy.

The details were announced by Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed following a special meeting of the nine rulers at the national palace today. The new king and his deputy will hold office for a 5-year period from 26 April this year.

His royal highness the sultan of Johor was proclaimed as the fourth sultan of the state on 11 May 1981 following the death of His Royal Highness Sultan Ismail Ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Ibrahim. His royal highness was born at Semayam palace in Johor Baharu on 8 April 1932. He was first appointed as the crown prince in May 1959, however 2 years later his position was given to his younger brother Tengku Abdul Rahman, while he was made the raja muda of Johor. On 29 April 1981, Sultan Iskandar was reappointed as the crown prince. His royal highness received his earlier education at the Ngee Heng English primary school and later the Sultan Abu Bakar College in Johor Baharu. He continued his education at the Trinity Grammar School in Australia and in another school in Britain. Upon returning home, the sultan worked in the Johor civil service as a cadet officer from 25 January 1956 till 8 May 1959. During that period, he gained a great deal of experience on administration matters at the district office, land office and the treasury. His royal highness has a keen interest in political developments in Johor and, in particular, that of the whole country in general.

His royal highness the sultan of Perak was proclaimed as the 34th sultan of Perak on 3 February following the death of Sultan Idris Shah Ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Iskandar. His royal highness was born on 19 April 1928 in Batu Gajah. Prior to his appointment as the sultan of Perak, his royal highness was the raja muda of Perak. He succeeded Raja Musa Ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Abdul Aziz who died in May last year.

VOMD INTERVIEW DISCUSSES CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS

BK090533 (Clandestine) Voice of Malayan Democracy in Malay 1215 GMT 6 Feb 84

[1 January interview with spokesman of the Malay Nationalist Revolutionary Party of Malaya by "our reporter" -- place not given, read by announcer]

[Excerpts] On 1 August last year Mahathir submitted a constitutional amendment bill to parliament. This move triggered a political crisis in the Kuala Lumpur ruling clique when Senu Abdul Rahman, former secretary general of the United Malay National Organization -- UMNO -- published an open letter exposing Mahathir's mistake. This event nakedly exposed the mad ambition of the Two M's [Mahathir-Musa Hitam] clique to contemplate taking over the constitutional powers of the yang dipertuan agung [paramount ruler] and the rulers. In this connection a VOMD reporter on 1 January interviewed the spokesman of the Malay Nationalist Revolutionary Party of Malaya -- MNRPM. The following is part of that interview:

[Question] How does the MNRPM view the background and motives of the constitutional amendment by the Two M's?

[Answer] The Two M position, which has been criticized, is not only opposed by the people but also by the rulers. The Two M's also entertain great ambitions to seize all state power and to annul the authority of the yang dipertuan agung and the rulers. The Two M's try to eliminate all obstacles to the further development of bureaucrat and comprador capitalists in collusion with foreign monopoly capitalists. The Two M's forced parliament to approve the constitutional amendment in August last year without prior consultations with the Council of Rulers. The people were not directly informed, and the plot was hatched in secrecy. The Two M's wanted to become most powerful and establish a dictatorial regime as in the Philippines.

The sultan of Kelantan on 3 December correctly said this constitutional amendment would make the Malaysian prime minister more powerful than any other prime minister in the world. His royal highness went on to say that vested with the right to proclaim a state of emergency, the prime minister was free at any time to create conditions to justify the proclamation of a state of emergency and become a dictator.

[Question] Why do the Two M's not want to resign as the constitutional amendment has developed into a political crisis and their government is opposed by many parties?

[Answer] It would have been appropriate for them to resign according to political morality. The head of any government having self-respect would resign if it fails in any important move. However, the Two M's are brazen-faced. There are many reasons why they do not want to resign, the main one being the great ambitions they have entertained for a long time. The purpose of the constitutional amendment is to make them most powerful through the seizure of all state power. As long as they cannot achieve this goal, they will carry on their efforts and struggle.

[Question] What are the prospects as a result of this development?

[Answer] There are several prospects: first, the Two M's merely took one step backward in order to advance two steps. There will be no change in their strategy. They will again contemplate seizing power. As a result, the rulers will be further dissatisfied and the conflict will sharpen further. Second, the Two M's will become more malicious and highhanded. Third, the conflict within UMNO will be aggravated, which can be seen from the upcoming UMNO Supreme Council meeting in May. Fourth, the rulers are greatly dissatisfied with the conduct of the Two M's clique in forcing the deputy yang dipertuan agung to sign the amendment. For example, the sultan of Kelantan expressed his great dissatisfaction. In a speech in front of thousands of people on last 16 December in Muar, the sultan of Johor criticized UMNO as a means to oppose the rulers regarding the constitutional amendment. State offices and buildings in Muar, Segamat and Keluang were ordered to fly only the Johor flag and not the Malaysian flag during the visit of the sultan of Johor. Pictures of Mahathir and Musa were also removed.

His royal highness the sultan of Pahang -- the yang dipertuan agong -- who was indisposed with a heart disease, has been recuperating at the royal hospital since last October as an expression of his anger over the constitutional amendment. As a result, new ambassadors assigned to Beijing, Rome, Bonn and Geneva cannot leave on schedule as they have yet to receive their credentials, which should be signed by the yang dipertuan agung.

The yang bipertuan agung is also not satisfied with Mahathir's conduct in pressuring the sultan of Negri Sembilan -- in his role as deputy yang dipertuan agung -- to sign the constitutional amendment.

Fifth, the dissatisfaction now prevailing in the Army, particularly among Malay troops, will further aggravate and continue to spread to other troops. The removal of the commander of the Army and his deputy and the installation of their successors are concrete examples. This will aggravate the conflict between the Army and the Two M's.

Sixth, the majority of the Malayan people and the Malayan troops believe that the sultan, as the symbol, must be respected. They stand by the sultan. The troops are greatly disappointed with the Two M's clique. The Malayan troops at the Chepa and Bukit China bases from last 26 to 29 December distributed leaflets throughout Kelantan attacking the Two M's and supporting the rulers. It is obvious that the struggle against the seizure of powers by the Two M's clique will continue in 1984. There will be a new major political crisis.

Seventh, various strata will continue their opposition, the struggle to remove the Two M's will continue, and the people will be prepared to fight in any form -- there are certainly those who are prepared to oppose them with arms -- while their numbers will increase according to the development of events.

And finally, dictators are doomed to fall in the end.

[Question] What is the view of the MNRPM regarding the vile tactics of the Two M's to resolve the constitutional crisis?

[Answer] The crisis has dragged on for 5 months. During this period the Two M's adopted various vile tactics: First they employed the entire propaganda machinery to mislead the people and justify their seizure of power. They pretended to remain loyal to the rulers by saying that the constitutional amendment strengthened the position of the rulers, that UMNO was the only party that guaranteed the position of the rulers, and that the rulers were indebted to UMNO.

Second, they prohibited opposition parties and the people from holding lectures, meetings, and other activities to express their opposition to the constitutional amendment and to support the rights of the rulers.

Third, the Two M's launched a campaign to prepare the ground to influence the people and to intimidate, threaten and persuade the rulers. They intimidated their opponents by saying that they would remove all obstructors and adventurers should the constitutional crisis not be resolved.

And fourth, although the Council of Rulers rejected the amendment, the Two M's nevertheless forced and persuaded the deputy yang dipertuan agung to unilaterally sign the amendment on 15 December. This was a very vile act.

The rulers were greatly dissatisfied. After performing Friday Prayers at the Mohammadi mosque in Kota Baharu on 16 December, the sultan of Kelantan declared: I am aggrieved over the decision that has been taken by the deputy yang dipertuan agung as I and the Malayan rulers unanimously decided not to approve the constitutional amendment. I and the Malayan rulers will continue to uphold this stand.

All this clearly shows that the Two M's are very tricky and vile in trying to cheat and trample on the heads of the rulers in their attempts to attain their goal. This is similar to the British efforts when they forcefully imposed the Malayan Union. However, like the British, the Two M's have also failed.



[Question] How does the MNRPM view the problem and how can it effectively prevent the Two M's regime from going further along the road toward dictatorship?

[Answer] The most essential thing is unity as the culmination of strength.

All patriotic parties, organizations and people, including patriotic soldiers and policemen, should put aside their differences, unite to defend the powers of the yang dipertuan agung and rulers, prevent the Two M's clique from seizing power, prevent any danger of dictatorship, launch various appropriate forms of struggle, and launch mass campaigns throughout the fatherland to counter the Two M's campaign of inciting the people to oppose the rulers in order to justify their plot to seize powers. They should adroitly oppose the Two M's prohibition on the broad discussion of the constitutional amendment issue as it is the right of every citizen to discuss it. Patriotic soldiers and policemen should take whatever step to safeguard the yang dipertuan agung and the rulers and oppose the treason by the two M's clique.

In sum, the Two M's clique is no longer fit to rule and it should be pressured to resign. Remove it! All democratic patriotic forces should organize a broad united front, strive for the establishment of a provisional government in the interim period comprising patriotic democratic circles as directed by the yang dipertuan agung and the rulers or those who get the blessing from their royal highnesses.

In order to attain broad unity, the internal war, which has been inherited from the British colonialists and carried on by the Two M's clique, should be ended soon.

[Question] What steps have been taken by the MNRPM in its struggle to oppose the recent constitutional amendment?

[Answer] A constitutional amendment is a major problem that affects the system of the state. Every political party and all patriots must take a stand on it. Since the emergence of the constitutional crisis in mid October last year, the MNRPM Central Committee has been paying close attention to it. Lately, especially since 3 November last year, the MNRPM Central Committee has consistently and harshly condemned the seizure of power by the Two M's. We resolutely support the position of the yang dipertuan agung and the rulers who firmly rejected the constitutional amendment. The MNRPM has issued timely directives to party cadres and members to arouse the broad masses of the people, launch all kinds of mass struggles and unite all patriotic and democratic forces to oppose the seizure of power by the Two M's.

The MNRPM information department has issued a series of open letters since 3 November dealing with the constitutional amendment issue. These letters were addressed to various circles of people and patriots, the Army and police, UMNO members, and others. These letters were widely disseminated in various states and have been favorably received by patriots in particular and the people in general.

In the light of the resolute stand of his royal highness the yang dipertuan agung and the council of rulers, and the unyielding struggle of various parties and patriotic forces, the Two M's were compelled to withdraw Article 150 and Table 8, and to rephrase Article 66, Section 5 of the 1983 Constitutional Amendment Bill.

This was the result of the joint struggle of the various forces, including patriotic members of the Army and police and also the MNRPM. Nevertheless, it should be noted that the Two M's only took one step backward in order to advance two steps. Their strategy to seize power and to create a dictatorial regime remains unchanged. Therefore we must further step up our struggle to frustrate the Two M's plot to seize the powers of the yang dipertuan agung and the rulers. Remove the Two M's! Establish a democratic patriotic coalition government in the interim period and end the internal war which was inherited from the British colonialist.

MARCOS MEETS BULGARIAN, INDONESIAN OFFICIALS

HK081437 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 8 Feb 84 pp 1, 11

[Text] President Marcos received yesterday an offer of technical assistance in agricultural development and dairy farming from the Bulgarian Government. Bulgarian Ambassador Angel A. Angelov conveyed the offer after he presented his credentials to Mr Marcos as non-resident ambassador to Manila.

Angelov said Bulgaria was prepared to invite as many delegations as possible from the Philippines to acquaint them with agricultural development techniques, especially in tobacco raising and the dairy industry. He said his country intends to intensify its economic relations with the Philippines.

"Development of economic relations is something close to our hearts," the president said in response.

During his stay in Manila, Angelov and his party will meet with officials of the Ministries of Trade and Industry and Labor and Employment, and the National Science and Technology Authority to discuss possible cooperative projects. Angelov reiterated the invitation of Bulgarian President T. Zhivkov for the first couple of visit Bulgaria at a time convenient to them.

Meanwhile, the president conferred the Philippine Legion of Honor, rank of commander, on Gen. Leonardus Benjamin Moerdani, commander-in-chief of the Indonesian Armed Forces. He said the general's "deep personal commitment, concern, and interest in regional cooperation forged closer relations among countries in the Association of South-east Asian Nations."

General Moerdani was also cited for successfully implementing the Philippine-Indonesian border agreement and the establishment of the system of military cooperation in the joint border patrols through a border pact among the Philippines, Indonesia, and Malaysia.

1983 ECONOMY SEEN AS 'WORST' IN 23 YEARS

HK081414 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 8 Feb 84 p 2

[Article by reporter Daniel C. Yu]

[Text] The National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) yesterday released the economic score sheet for 1983 containing what many had feared as the country's worst economic output in 23 years.

As earlier reported, gross national product -- the total output of goods and services -- in terms of 1972 prices -- inched up 1.39 percent to P (Philippines peso) 100,048 million last year from P98,679 million in 1982 (see Jan. 3 issue).

The government had projected a growth of 3 percent to 4 percent for 1983. In 1982, GNP rose 2.75 percent over the 1981 level. Personal consumption expenditures increased 3 percent to P65,472 million from P63,535 million. Gross domestic capital formation decreased 4.42 percent to P25,250 million from P26,418 million, mainly because of a slowdown in government construction activity by 21.47 percent from 1982.

Sector

The agriculture, fishery and forestry sector, hurt by the drought from late in 1982 to early 1983, posted a 2.1 percent output decline to P24,845 million from P25,378 million registered in 1982.

The industrial sector, accounting for 36 percent of the 1983 gross domestic product and the main factor in the overall economic performance during the first semester rose only 0.66 percent over the 1982 output.

A major factor was the 5.77 percent drop in overall construction activity, mainly as a result of less government activity in the sector.

Mining and quarrying output inched up 3.27 percent after a 7.31 percent decline in 1982.

Manufacturing activity grew by 2.24 percent to P25,084 million from P24,535 million in 1982, compared with a 2.5 percent in 1982 over P23,959 million in 1981.

The service sector recorded a growth of 3.5 percent to P39,232 million from P37,907 million in 1982.

Growths were recorded for the transport, communication and storage sector at 3.16 percent, domestic trade at 6.02 percent, finance and housing at 4 percent growth, and social, business and community at 0.64 percent.

#### Trade

Merchandise exports totaled P13,738 million, down 2.42 percent from P14,078 million in 1982. Total merchandise imports slipped 5.3 percent to P16,067 million from P16,967 million.

Of the 15 principal exports only five increased. The traditional exports such as copper concentrates, centrifugal sugar, gold, sinters, banana, desiccated coconut, coconut oil, plywood and coffee all declined.

Semi-conductor and electronics exports went up 21.85 percent. Plywood and lumber posted an average of 25 percent growth. Exports of prepared tuna increased 18.9 percent.

The top 10 principal imports registered increases, except machineries and metal manufactured products.

Per capital GNP slipped by 0.99 percent to P1,926 from P1,945. BUSINESS DAY earlier computed a per capita decline of 0.9 percent for the year, the lowest annual growth rate since 1960 and the second time since the war that the country failed to achieve a per capita GNP growth.

Gross National Product and Gross Domestic Product  
by Expenditures Shares, 1981 to 1983  
At Constant 1972 Prices  
(In million pesos)

Type of Expenditure	1982	1983
1. Personal consumption expenditures	63,535	65,472
2. General government consumption expenditures	9,145	9,084
A. Compensation of employees	5,127	5,224
B. Other expenditures	4,018	3,860

Type of Expenditure	1982	1983
3. Gross domestic capital formation	26,418	25,250
A. Fixed capital formation	23,833	23,186
1. Construction	12,672	12,013
a. Government	5,610	4,327
b. Private	7,162	7,636
2. Durable equipment	11,166	11,173
B. Increase in stocks	2,580	2,064
4. Exports of goods and non-factor services	17,486	17,779
5. Less: Imports of goods and non-factor services	19,510	19,114
6. Statistical discrepancy	2,023	1,654
Expenditures on gross domestic product	99,097	100,125
Net factor income from abroad	(418)	(77)
Expenditures on Gross National Product	98,679	100,048

Source: NEDA, Statistical Coordination Office, National Accounts Staff.

#### MARCOS ON RULING PARTY ELECTION ISSUES

HK090327 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] President Marcos said KBL [Kilusang Bagong Lipunan] Batasan candidates may run against each other in the coming May 14 election. He told newsmen in Baguio City yesterday that some KBL aspirants have signified their intention to run even if not endorsed by the KBL leadership, and have started campaigning and criticizing their opponents. However, there were reports that President Marcos may take the final decision on who will be the KBL's bets for the Batasan. Al Dovar, news director of FEBC, has more details in his report from Baguio City:

[Begin recording] President Marcos today raised the possibility of KBL candidates running against each other in the forthcoming May 14 Batasan elections. He told newsmen in an interview at the presidential guesthouse in Baguio City that some KBL aspirants are already spending money against each other and are beginning to criticize each other personally. Asked about the possibility that some KBL aspirants might run just the same, even if they are not chosen, the president said that those leaving the party always say they will run not as KBL men, but they always remain loyal KBL members. He said, however, he does not know how they can manage that.

According to the president, there are too many people who want to run, and that out of the 183 candidates, there are about 1,500 who want to run for the election.

The president also revealed that some regional, provincial, and city committees of the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan have asked the president to choose the KBL candidate for the Batasan election for them.



The president has instructed Deputy Prime Minister Jose Rono, KBL secretary general, to bring to Baguio City the final listing recommended by the regional, provincial, and city committees. Together they are expected to go over the listing, which would be taken up by the KBL Central Committee when it meets on February 14 to make the final choice. This process would forego the holding of a convention or the seeking of a consensus, which is costly and injurious. The president also said he wanted to complete the slate as quickly as possible, to prevent rivals from hurting each other.

Earlier, the president said that among the criteria for choosing a party candidate among the hundreds of aspirants are their dedication and commitment to the KBL ideology and program, their chances of winning, and their integrity, honesty, and dedication to the public service. He also said that the KBL as a policy will not allow relatives of incumbent assemblymen and local government executives to run as candidates unless there is no other alternative, to prevent the establishment of political dynasties. [end recording]

#### PAPER SUPPORTS CARDINAL SIN'S CALL FOR VOTING

HK081423 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 8 Feb 84 p 4

[Editorial: "An Advice Well Worth Taking"]

[Text] The advice of Jaime L. Cardinal Sin to the people to go out and vote in the Batasang Pambansa election in May makes sense. Nothing will be gained by boycotting the election. The opposition should realize that a boycott could give the advantage to the administration whose followers will vote for KBL [Kilusang agong Lipunan] candidates.

Cardinal Sin was right when he said the May election "is our only chance." The May poll is indeed crucial to the nation and the people will have only themselves to blame should they boycott it.

If, as the National Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel) says, the overall estimated turnout of voters in the Jan 27 plebiscite was only 38 per cent, and if further, those who kept away were largely opposition-inclined, the absence of even 25 per cent could have made a big difference in the results of the voting on the last two questions of the plebiscite.

The sacredness of the ballot in a people's choice of their representatives should not be underestimated. The new composition of the regular Batasang Pambansa will depend very much on the people coming out in full force to cast their ballots. While it is true that the electors at this stage of the campaign are cynical and doubt the sincerity of some government leaders who have assured them of a clean and orderly election, nothing can stop the people from imposing their collective will if they so desire.

The Namfrel is doing its part to influence the members of the Batasang Pambansa to disregard the "midnight" election bill of Political Affairs Minister Leonardo B. Perez and submit a three-year-old proposed election code. Hopefully, the Namfrel will have a supporter in the person of Assemblyman Arturo M. Tolentino (Manila-KBL).

What is critical, however, is the continued division within the opposition. It has yet to present a united front to contest the ruling KBL, which although dented in some areas by resignations and revolts, still presents a solid group under the leadership of President Marcos. The Namfrel may have active groups all over the country to watch election developments and report them to the people, but if the opposition remains fragmented, nothing will come out of the May election.

The cardinal's advice should be headed by a nation wide awake to the reality and needs of the times. Vigilance and the will to face those who may seek to terrorize voters will not only insure clean and fair elections but also prove the maturity of the Filipino people.

For once the sovereign people have a right to speak out their minds on critical matter. They should do it without hesitation.

#### JUSTICE MINISTER ON BATASAN MEMBERSHIP BILL

OW081327 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] There is no element of fraud or surprise in the Substitute Electoral Bill which has become highly controversial. Justice Minister Ricardo Puno defended the controversial bill, as he refuted allegation that the proposed increase in the Batasan membership from 200 to 220 was a rider, and therefore unconstitutional. Puno spoke before the Batasan breakfast club meeting this morning at the Asian Institute of Tourism; and Jose Carlos was there.

[Begin recording] [Carlos] Minister Puno, who is also a member of the Batasan Committee on the Revision of Laws, Codes, and Constitutional Amendments, said that the Constitution provides that the Batasan membership should not be more than 200, unless otherwise provided by law. With the new apportionment, which the people ratified in the last plebiscite, the number of elective representatives was increased from 165, under the 1978 election code, to 183. Adding the 14 (?sectoral) members, the total number went to 197, leaving only 3 seats to be filled by the president from the Cabinet members.

According to Puno, with the proposed additional 30 seats, the president will have 23 seats to fill in accordance with law. Puno added that the committee had to propose a substitute bill, instead of taking up a revision of the entire electoral code, due to time constraints.

[Puno] And the provision regarding the number of the Batasan members can be properly legislated upon law, because we are going to constitute the next Batasan, and the election is going to take place within the tenure of the present interim Batasang Pambansa. There should be, therefore, corresponding legislations for the next election of 1986, which will be a local election, and the next election of 1987, which will be a presidential election.

[Carlos] Minister Puno stressed that the current debate on the substitute bill has become healthy, indicating that opposition to proposed measures of the ruling party can come from within. [end recording].

#### FEBC COMMENTS ON COMMODITY SHORTAGE PROBLEMS

HK090329 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2330 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Shortages of commodities have a habit of cropping up whenever the government tries to place any product or commodity under price control. Shortages have become a potent weapon in the price war between the government and the business sector. As usual, the people suffer. They are always the innocent victims.

Obviously, businessmen and traders have forgotten the fact that they are a part of society and they do not exist alone. The Philippine economy is being run under the principle of free enterprise. The government is supposed to only encourage any economic activity that redounds to the general welfare of the country. Free enterprise however is not freedom to exploit a people that has no recourse but to buy their daily necessities at prices dictated by these traders. If the government has always to intervene in the trade of all products, then the country might as well try another system.

There is always a reasonable level of prices for all products from the actual source down to the consumers. This is obvious, unless the business sector is blinded by the obsession to gain as much as it could at the slightest expense.

#### PAPER WANTS FACTS ON SALARY INCREASE PLAN

HK081449 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 8 Feb 84 p 6

[Editorial: "Gov't Manpower"]

[Text] It would be enlightening to know some facts about government personnel spending and the implications of the president's directive to agencies to set aside 10 percent of their budgets for salary increases.

Late in 1982, the prime minister said there were about a million government workers and their compensation totalled P [Philippines peso] 20 billion a year. Early last year Civil Service Commissioner Albina Manalo Dans said there were about 600,000 in the civil service plus casual or temporary workers and workers under contract.

Budget Minister Manuel Alba estimated that if 10 percent of the budgets were saved for salary increases as directed by the president, this would amount to P2 billion to P3 billion.

Government spending for salaries and wages would leave little of the P24-billion tax collection goal of the Bureau of Internal Revenue for this year.

Even if the agencies save 10 percent of their budgets for salary increases, the aggregate amount may mean only a raise of 10 percent per worker if the increases are made across-the-board, which is a pittance.

It would be advisable to give priority to the people receiving the lowest salaries at all levels of government, and these people are not only the teachers and the soldiers. There are government workers who receive about P500 a month. These are the most deserving. On the other hand, we do not think those who are already receiving comfortable salaries should be benefited by the planned pay raises.

During an economic crisis, compensation increases are a survival measure and should, therefore, be limited to those whose survival are in doubt. There are still a number of non-essential types of spending which can be postponed to give way to the poorest employees.

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